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Security forces kill two Hamas fugitives in A-Ram village

HERB KEINON

SECURITY forces yesterday killed two Hamas fugitives – one of whom was wanted for involvement in the murder of General Security Service officer Noam Cohen last February – in the village of A-Ram, just north of Jerusalem.

Senior IDF sources said that Abdul Monem Muhammed Yusef Naji, 25, from the Amari refugee camp near Ramallah, was killed in an operation involving the General Security Service, the special anti-terrorist unit of the Border Police, and the IDF.

Another man, Zuhair Ramadan Rushdi Farah, from A-Ram was also killed. The IDF sources said Farah, also in his 20's, was known as a Hamas activist in Jerusalem. Both men belonged to the Hamas's military wing, Izzadin Kassam.

Last night, residents of the village took to the streets shouting "Allahu Akhbar," and "Down with occupation." Tires were burned across the street from the shooting site, and soldiers fired tear gas to disperse the crowds. The security forces placed A-Ram under curfew last night.

The operation took place on a street in A-Ram. Witnesses told AP that it took place just after the two men got off a bus. IDF sources said Naji was found with a loaded pistol.

Rioting broke out in the village immediately after the shooting, and soldiers fired tear-gas canisters to disperse the crowd.

Yehezkel Cohen, the father of Noam Cohen, told Israel Radio, "I am happy the it was made clear that Hamas does not enjoy immunity from the GSS, and that the GSS's promises that murderers will be caught and punished are not empty. I don't know if Noam knows what his officers and friends did today, but if he does I am sure that he is proud of them, and proud that he was a part of them."

Cohen said that on the personal level, although this operation was important, "it does nothing to relieve the pain of the family and friends."

Cohen was killed in February in the village of Bituniya, on the western outskirts of Ramallah. Naji, who had at one time cooperated with Cohen, apparently lured him into the ambush where he was killed. Two other GSS agents were moderately wounded in that attack.

Two weeks later, the IDF raided a home in Abu Dis, killing one of the three assailants and capturing another. Since that time the security services have been looking for Naji.

Near the site where Naji and Farah were killed, a Fatah activist wrote in red paint, "Even if we agreed to peace that does not mean our blood is cheap," and "Our martyrs will not go in vain."

Othniel residents and Arabs from Rabud demonstrate for help in wiping out mosquitoes afflicting their communities near Hebron. (Brian Hendler)

Jews, Arabs unite to take the bite out of Hebron-region mosquito plague

LIAT COLLINS and news agencies

A SWARM of mosquitoes has succeeded in doing what politicians, idealists and peacemakers have often dreamed about, but rarely achieved.

The pesky insects bit the residents of the Jewish town of Othniel and Arab town of Rabud into action, who yesterday held a joint demonstration against the mosquito invasion which has plagued the area along Nahal Hebron.

About 100 people joined forces along a main highway, about 16 kilometers from Hebron, to demonstrate against the bloodsucking common enemy. It proved that once you scratch the surface, Arabs and Israelis are itching to cooperate in at least one field.

In an area where cries of "Kill the Arabs" or "Kill the Jews" are far more frequent than "Kill the mosquitoes," motorists slowed down to ask if a clash had erupted.

Explaining their gripe, protester Avia Kedari of Otniel said on Army Radio that tens of thousands of mosquitoes breeding in the sewage-filled stream had infested their homes.

Kedari said the 10-year-old problem is particularly acute this year.

"Our children cannot sleep" because of the smell and the buzz of mosquitoes, said Mohammed Taleb Ktat, from Rabud.

Asked whether the cooperation was acceptable to both communities, Ktat replied, "This isn't a problem. We have a common emergency."

"We want to find a solution to this so we can all sleep peacefully," added Kedari.

A Civil Administration plane took to the skies in the morning before the demonstration to spray insecticide, following the professional advice of Environment Ministry officials.

The ministry itself has no jurisdiction over the area which is run by the civil administration but Environment Minister Yossi Sarid welcomed the Arab-Jewish joint protest.

"Mosquitoes don't differentiate between Arab and Jewish blood. Environmental problems don't make distinctions between race, religion or nationality and don't recognize borders," he said.

Further insecticide spraying is expected in the future.

Israelis and Palestinians against smoking, Page 3

Histadrut threatens strike if receiver appointed for Clalit

JOSE ROSENFELD and MICHAL YUDLEMAN

THE Histadrut is threatening a general strike if the government appoints a receiver for Kupat Holim Clalit.

Finance Minister Avraham Shohat recommended last night that a temporary receiver be named, saying Histadrut Secretary-General-designate Haim Ramon's refusal to transfer money to the fund left him no other alternative.

Shohat said he believes that the health fund's dire financial situation immediately endangers the provision of medical services to 70 percent of the population.

The cabinet is scheduled to debate Shohat's proposal today. Labor's ministers last night met in a last ditch attempt to solve the crisis.

Outgoing Secretary-General Haim Haberfeld slammed Shohat's decision, warning it would lead to ferment in the economy, culminating in a general strike.

From his sickbed in Beilinson Hospital, Haberfeld said that this "wretched, miserable decision will not stand the test of reality and cannot be implemented."

Ramon slammed Shohat's decision last night saying, "the finance minister is among those preventing me from taking over as Histadrut secretary-general. Let me take over, I am willing to do so tomorrow and heal Kupat Holim. Don't take drastic measures."

He said Kupat Holim could be lead into recovery without going into receivership. "All of the conditions have changed now. There is a new health minister, a new leadership in the Histadrut... therefore the fund has a real chance to succeed," he said on Channel 1.

Agreeing with Ramon, Haberfeld said the government should

have continued helping Kupat Holim for the next three months, until Ramon assumes office and decides how to go about solving the crisis. Ramon, Haberfeld noted, has already announced he has no intention of approving any move by the Histadrut until he enters office.

The Meretz ministers will vote against appointing a receiver, following a decision by the faction yesterday. Dedi Zucker dissented, saying that without a receiver, Clalit would not recover.

According to a communique issued after the meeting, Meretz also demanded a letter declaring that the outgoing leadership of the Histadrut was responsible for the health fund's debts. "Without the letter, we will not take responsibility," declared the faction, which is due to take responsibility for the Histadrut – and the health fund – soon.

Yi'ud faction chairman Gonen Segev said the "task of a receiver would be to streamline Kupat Holim Clalit, sell off some of its properties, and build a system with only minimal assistance from the government."

The Likud faction issued a statement approving of Shohat's plans.

Shohat rejected accusations that the move was politically motivated. "My professional judgment, my obligations to the public, and my conscience all lead me to the conclusion on the need to rehabilitate Kupat Holim and not delay decisions for political and personal reasons," he said.

Asked why Shohat waited until after the Histadrut election to deal with the fund's financial problems, his political adviser Ohad Marani said he did not want to interfere with the elections. He added that election time is not propitious for undertaking painful recovery programs.

Marani also said that Ramon's accusation that Shohat was politically motivated angered the minister. According to him, Shohat has been pushing all along for the change of leadership to take place as soon as possible.

Earlier in the day, the Histadrut leadership decided not to sell off any of its assets, Acting Secretary-General Meir Gatt said.

Evelyn Gordon adds:

Knesset finance committee chairman Gedalya Gal (Labor) warned that the crisis in Kupat Holim could lead to Rabin's resignation.

"I very much fear that this could cause a government crisis, which would bring the prime minister [to ask for new elections]," Gal told Israel Radio.

"In the abnormal situation that exists, in which there is one coalition leading the Histadrut and another leading the government, this conflict is very dangerous."

Dan Izenberg contributed to this report.

Health Ministry reassures Clalit's clients, Page 14

Rabin: No autonomy institutions in Jerusalem

'I hope they comply; if not, we will help them'

DAN IZENBERG

ISRAEL has run into legal problems in its attempts to expel Palestinian institutions linked to the autonomy from eastern Jerusalem, Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin told the Knesset foreign affairs and defense committee yesterday.

Rabin said Israel was determined to remove the organizations, but indicated that it might take some time, according to a source who attended the meeting.

The prime minister told the committee that PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat had made no formal request to visit Jerusalem; he added that he did not believe it would be appropriate for Arafat to visit Jerusalem now, but did not rule out the possibility two years hence.

"In the Oslo and Cairo Agreements, the Palestinians promised that all the institutions of the Palestinian authority would be located in Jericho," Rabin told reporters after the meeting. "We expect them to keep their word. I am not referring to Jerusalem institutions for Jerusalemites living in Jerusalem. However, the place for everything related to the Palestinian authority is Jericho. I hope they comply; if not, we will help them."

However, in his briefing to the committee, Rabin indicated that it may not be so easy to move the Palestinian institutions. "There are 'new' institutions – we are making a list of them – and the question [of removing them] is now being examined not only on the basis of [Palestinian] good will but in terms of what the law allows us to do. When I know what the law says, I will report to you. I have held a number of meetings and it could be that without [additional] legislation, we will not be able to deal [with these institutions.]"

Rabin shed light on his priorities regarding the territories which are at stake in the negotiations with the Palestinians and the Syrians.

"Above all, Jerusalem," said Rabin. "Then certain territories in Judea and Samaria; the Golan Heights and Gaza in last place. There are certain areas in Judea and Samaria that are more important in security and historical terms, than the Golan Heights."

Rabin elaborated on a statement by Police and Energy Minister Moshe Shahal, who told the Knesset last week that the situation could be restored to the status quo ante in case of Palestinian violations of the agreement. "The return to the status quo ante can be total or partial," said Rabin. "But I am talking about a significant violation by the Palestinians. Arafat's speech [in Johannesburg] was scandalous. But is that a reason for the agreement to collapse?"

Rabin told the committee it was taking a long time to build a fence along the eastern edge of the Gaza Strip because of the special construction, aimed at making it as secure and impenetrable as possible. He estimated the cost of the fence at NIS 100 million, and said it was of a higher standard than any other security fence.

In response to a question by Binyamin Netanyahu (Likud), Rabin explained that the government did not have enough money to extend the fence to the northern edge of the Gaza Strip and around three isolated settlements in the north-east corner of Gaza.

Asked about Police Inspector-General Assaf Hefetz's prediction of serious terrorist attacks in the next five to 10 years, Rabin replied: "May I remind you that we have had 100 years of terrorism and I made no promises about how much longer it would last. Our job is to cope with terrorism. The shouting of the right-wing only weakens our resistance."

The charge elicited vocal protests from opposition MKs.

Setback for health insurance plan

DAN IZENBERG

THE introduction of a national health insurance plan took a giant step backwards yesterday, when the faction headed by MK Haim Ramon decided to make its implementation conditional on passage of a workers' organization tax law.

The workers' organization tax, which could take a long time to legislate, and may in fact prove unconstitutional, is meant to replace a provision for a 'human service' tax which was to have been part of the national health insurance bill.

Committee chairman Amir Peretz decided to drop the 'human service' tax after it ran into ferocious opposition from NRP and Labor Party MKs, solidly backed by Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin.

The special committee appointed to legislate a national health bill is to meet this morning to approve the national health insurance bill transferring responsibility for medical care to the state and calling for the imposition of a universal 4.8 percent tax to pay for medical services.

Until yesterday, the bill's initiators hoped the bill would go into effect as soon accompanying ministerial regulations were prepared, a matter of a few months. Now, however, implementation of the bill will be dependent on Knesset approval of another, problematic law.

Essentially, the aim of both the 'human service' and the 'workers' organization' tax is to keep the Histadrut from financial bankruptcy after the national health insurance bill goes into effect.

The national health insurance bill terminate the Histadrut's decades-long practice of collecting the health tax on behalf of Kupat Holim Clalit, which it owns, and siphoning off 25 percent of the funds for its organizational needs.

The 'human service' tax was proposed by Finance Minister Avraham Shohat as a compromise between the Histadrut – which refused to give up its right to collect the health tax – and Ramon and his backers, who wanted to severe the link between the Histadrut and medical care.

Shohat's prosposal called for severing the link, while creating a new, state-legislated tax which would guarantee continued funding for the Histadrut.

However, the 'human service' tax proved to be too problematic. The 0.8 percent tax was to have

(Continued on Page 2)

Arafat did receive Jerusalem document – Begin

YASSER Arafat was not lying in Johannesburg when he said he had received an additional document concerning Jerusalem from Israeli officials, Likud MK Benny Begin said last night on television.

But Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin's office last night denied Begin's claim, saying Rabin told the Knesset foreign affairs and defense committee yesterday that Foreign Minister Shimon Peres had given Arafat a copy of a speech he had delivered in the Knesset, which, among other things, had discussed the status of Jerusalem. (Itim)

Once again Arafat suggests agreement is 'temporary'

DAVID MAKOVSKY and news agencies

PLO leader Yasser Arafat has again suggested his agreement with Israel is only temporary, once again likening it to the seventh century truce Mohammed made with his enemies which fell apart after two years.

In comments Monday night to a meeting of Palestinian contractors in Tunis, Arafat said the Israel-PLO deal was short-term.

"What happened was not all that we wanted, but the best we could get at the worst time," he told a meeting of Palestinian contractors. "Prophet Mohammed reached [a similar] agreement with the infidels in Hudayybia and it was torn down two years later by the infidels." He referred to Mohammed's agreement with an Arabian tribe, the Kuraish. That agreement ended after two years with Mohammed's conquest of the Kuraish.

"The agreement has recognized the Palestinian entity which will blossom into a Palestinian state," Arafat said in Tunis Monday.

"What is important is that we've achieved the birth of a new state in the area and Palestinians and Arabs are bound to take it into their care and develop it," he said.

Arafat's comments come just one week after a political firestorm broke out in Israel, after it was divulged that Arafat told Moslems in Johannesburg that the Israel-PLO accord was comparable to the Hudayybia truce in 628.

Jericho security services head confined to town

JON IMMANUEL

THE head of the Jericho security services has been barred from leaving Jericho because of a series of inflammatory statements he has made in the past week, Prime Minister Rabin said yesterday.

Since his arrival from Tunis two weeks ago, Jibril Rajoub has traveled freely outside Jericho, emphasizing that he is security chief from Jenin to Hebron. He has spoken to reporters in Dura near Hebron, to university students in Bethlehem, and Beduin in Lakiye, a township inside Israel.

On each occasion, he took a militant line towards Israel, settlers, Palestinian informers, and the peace agreement, while making conciliatory comments about opposition armed factions.

At Bethlehem University last Tuesday, he said "settlers who violate Palestinian laws will be treated harshly," "collaborators deserve no mercy," and an opposition faction has the right to "express itself in the way it sees fit, but not take the law into its own hands." He said he opposed disarming armed factions. He called the Cairo agreement "weak and unjust." But on another occasion, he added "that it should be observed to the letter."

In Lakiye, last Saturday, he said settlers "who perpetrated the Hebron massacre could go to hell."

Security sources said they were surprised by Rabin's move, noting that other Fatah returnees had made more militant statements.

Dan Izenberg contributed to this report.

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Rabin: Syria is not serious about peace

DAN IZENBERG

SYRIA is not yet genuinely interested in peace and was not serious about the bilateral negotiations with Israel in Washington, Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin told the Knesset foreign affairs and defense committee yesterday.

Rabin added that the shuttle diplomacy conducted by US Secretary of State Warren Christopher between Israel and Syria has nothing more to contribute to the peace process.

He also vehemently denied a report in yesterday's daily *Ha'aretz* claiming he had told Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak that Israel was ready to withdraw completely from the Golan Heights. "There is not a shred of truth to the report," said Rabin.

Speaking to reporters after the meeting, Rabin refrained from saying the negotiations with Syria had reached a dead end. "Not yet," Rabin replied to a question to that effect.

However, he made it clear that none of the channels of communication opened with Syria since the Madrid Conference offered hope at present.

"So long as there is no agreement [between Israel and Syria] on the basics, I do not believe the Syrians will come to Washington," said Rabin, referring to the bilateral peace talks which have been conducted sporadically in Washington since 1991. He added that the Syrians had only "treaded water" during those talks.

As for Christopher's efforts to mediate between the sides, Rabin said: "We are interested in Christopher's coming to the region from time to time; however, I think Washington has exhausted its efforts. Assad is playing for time and conducting bargaining tactics."

"The Syrians are apparently not genuinely interested in peace," Rabin concluded.

When Moshe Peled (Tsomet) pointed out that Intelligence Branch commander Maj.-Gen. Uri Saguy had recently come to the opposite conclusion, Rabin replied: "Maybe he thinks they want peace; I am looking for the expression of this."

Rabin reiterated his program for peace with Syria – a phased territorial withdrawal to an unspecified border to be worked out in negotiations with Damascus, satisfactory security arrangements, and normalization of ties, including full diplomatic relations.

Rabin said he conveyed to Syrian President Hafez Assad via Christopher that Israel and Egypt had normalized their relations long before Israel withdrew from any part of the Sinai Desert. He mentioned the visit of Anwar Sadat to Jerusalem in November 1977, the Mena House talks, and the Camp David negotiations as examples.

"Two years and two months of normalization went by before the withdrawal began," said Rabin. "Syria has not done anything similar. Therefore the timetable must take longer. We will not determine now the line to which we will withdraw. I insist on a phased timetable because the talks with the Syrians did not begin with a visit by Assad to Jerusalem. Even in the first withdrawal from the Sinai, we did not uproot settlements. The same must apply to the Golan.

"We must execute a very small withdrawal in the first stage without uprooting any settlements. Afterwards, we will discuss a staged withdrawal to a mutually acceptable line. This will take place on the backdrop of full normalization."

Liat Collins adds:

A true peace agreement could bring about a situation in which Israel would give up sovereignty over the Golan Heights, but maintain a presence there, according to Environment Minister Yossi Sarid. Sarid was speaking yesterday during a tour of kibbutzim in the north.

Sarid said that unlike Rabin, he believes that if it becomes apparent that peace with Syria will bring a normalization of relations, Israel will have no choice but to give up sovereignty over the Golan Heights. "I'm talking about the whole Golan Heights, but take note, I'm talking about sovereignty, not presence."

A member of the Temporary International Presence in Hebron soccer team tackles a local player during a friendly match held yesterday in Hebron. (Brian Hendler)

Gazan civil administration workers line up to collect final paychecks

JON IMMANUEL

THE civil administration paid the last salaries to 7,600 Gazan employees yesterday and the Palestinian Authority is searching for money to use to continue paying the workers, who now become its employees.

Hassan Abu Libdeh, deputy director of the Palestinian Economic Council for Development and Reconstruction (PECDAR), denied there was any crisis. "We have several alternatives, but they are going to get their salaries at the end of the month," he said.

He added that the alternatives involved taxation or monies owed by donor countries which promised to pay their share as soon as the Cairo agreement was signed May 4.

He said little of the $613 million promised at a meeting of donor countries January 27 had been received yet, but he expected a meeting of donors on or around June 9 to launch the flow of cash.

Capt. Hannie Yeshurun, spokeswoman for the Coordinator of Government Activities in the Territories, said the civil administration spent NIS 20 million each month on salaries for 18,000 workers doing jobs provided by the civil administration through the municipalities.

"We paid for all of May even though Gazans did not work for the civil administration after May 18," when the PA took over, she said. But there can be no more payments, even as a humanitarian gesture, she said, because "we have no more budget."

Salaries came almost entirely from taxes paid to the civil administration by Gazans.

Crowds formed outside Gaza post offices, where civil administration employees gathered to collect their last salaries.

So far no tax system has been established by the PA to replace the Israeli system, although PA economics officials were appointed last weekend. Income tax, property taxes and municipal taxes are being considered together with customs and sales taxes provided for in the Paris economic agreements.

Speaking at the Orient House on Monday, local Palestinian leader Faisal Husseini indicated that the PA would demand that Israel pay back "millions" of dollars he said was taken and not repaid in services.

The Workers' Hotline, an Israeli labor rights group, is currently suing the government for $1 billion it says is owed to Palestinians who made national insurance contributions between 1970 and the signing of the Cairo agreement.

Reuter adds:

PLO leader Yasser Arafat told more than 200 Palestinian businessmen yesterday in Tunis that he wanted their plans for reconstruction to turn the new self-rule areas of Gaza and Jericho into "economic tigers."

More than 200 Palestinian businessmen from inside and outside the territories met in Tunis for the first time to draw up plans for their reconstruction.

Rabin soothes Labor's right-wing

SARAH HONIG

PRIME Minister Yitzhak Rabin had to calm down his Health Minister-designate Ephraim Sneh and four other Labor MKs and assure them that he will not yield on Jerusalem and that as things stand now there is no progress in talks on the Golan.

Rabin was visited yesterday afternoon by Sneh and MKs Gedalya Gal, Ori Orr, Micha Goldman, and Eli Goldschmidt, the four Labor MKs who last weekend met with Likud MKs. They announced they are forming "a centrist, defense-oriented" group to counteract the ultra-dovish Mashov Circle, which includes Deputy Foreign Minister Yossi Beilin, and MKs Avraham Burg, Haggai Merom, Yael Dayan, and Nawaf Massalha.

The five expressed concern about the PLO offensive to create faits accomplis in Jerusalem and about possible concessions by the government. They said they think the government is lurching too far too the left.

They also sought assurances from Rabin about the Golan and the Jordan Valley, both of which, they asserted, are vital for Israel's security.

According to Goldman, the group left "feeling far better than we did when we came in. He told us we have nothing to worry about. Jerusalem will remain Israel's eternal capital and as for the Golan, contacts with Syria are at such a preliminary phase, and are not really moving ahead, that there is no expectation that any moves will have to be made soon."

They also have scheduled regular meetings with the Likud MKs, the next being in 10 days.

Syrian FM blames Israel for impasse in peace talks

News agencies

CAIRO – Syrian Foreign Minister Farouk Sharaa said yesterday that US Secretary of State Warren Christopher's shuttle diplomacy between Israel and Damascus was being held up by Israeli intransigence.

"So far no progress," he told reporters at the end of the opening day of a Non-Aligned Movement conference in Cairo.

Sharaa was responding to news reports which quoted Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin as saying the United States had exhausted its efforts to bridge the differences between the two countries, and that Syria was apparently not ready for peace.

"I think he is talking about Israel, not Syria... Syria is very much interested in peace," Shara said.

"If there is no progress it is because of the Israeli intransigent attitude in the peace talks in Washington," he said, implying that pro-Israeli sympathies in Washington reduced the influence of US diplomacy.

"The Americans are trying to do what they can, but you know the relations between the United States and Israel," he said.

In Washington, a senior US official said yesterday, that Israeli-Syrian peace negotiations are moving at a "glacial" pace, putting a trip to the region next month by US Secretary of State Warren Christopher in doubt.

"You all know the rate they (the talks) are proceeding and it is certainly glacial," said the official.

In Damascus yesterday, A government-run newspaper maintained that Israel's real objective in the Middle East peace process was financial, saying Israel was seeking further Western support and investments.

"Israel is trying to introduce itself as an economic base for the West in the Middle East capable of infiltrating an Arab economy and protecting Western investments in the region," the daily *Tishrin* said in an editorial.

Tishrin charged that the Israeli government had deliberately created a deadlock in its talks with Syria because "they will lead eventually to a genuine peace that will put an end to its greeds, occupation and aggression."

Israel acts over lack of Palestinian tax collection

JOSE ROSENFELD

THE failure of the Palestinians to organize tax and customs collection has required the government to take special steps, VAT and Customs director Arye Zeif told a press conference yesterday.

Since May 6, when the administrative authority for Gaza and Jericho was transferred, "none of our Palestinian partners have shown up to implement the economic agreement," he said.

As a result, the government continues to collect customs on imports headed for the autonomous areas, keeping separate records to be able to reimburse the Palestinian customs authority.

For example, on Monday, a 300-ton shipment of cement from Egypt arrived in Gaza and was required to clear regular Israeli customs. Although the Paris economic agreement allows the Palestinians to import up to 150,000 tons duty-free, Israeli customs collected the duty, which it will refund to the Palestinians once they are organized, explained Zeif.

The Paris agreement also entitles individuals on both sides to file for Value Added Tax refunds based on payment invoices issued by Israeli or Palestinian businesses. However, since the Palestinian authorities have not printed VAT invoices, any businessman in the autonomous areas could theoretically issue thousands of VAT invoices to Israelis, who would in turn request a refund from the VAT office in Israel.

Settlement activists hope protest snowballs

HERB KEINON

THE 40 Ma'aleh Levona families who camped out in Jerusalem in an anti-government protest for the past week were replaced yesterday by residents of Yitzhar, raising expectations among settlement activists that this form of protest will snowball.

A number of families from Beit Hagai in the Hebron Hills are scheduled to join the 10 families from Yitzhar tomorrow, and a group from Beit El is forming to join the protest next week. The protest is taking place around the corner from the Prime Minister's Office.

Noa Ariel, who said she packed up her three small children and came to the protest site for an unlimited time, said the idea is to do something drastic, to "break the rules of the game."

"It is like we are all frogs on a stove," she said. "[Yitzhak] Rabin keeps turning up the heat, seeing how much we can take. We have two choices: We can either jump off the stove, or we can die. We have decided to jump off the stove."

Ariel said the idea is for this protest-site to turn into a center for anti-government activity that will place continuous pressure on Rabin.

"Rabin cannot ignore it if 1,000 people take their children out of school, disturb their daily routines, and camp-out in a continuous protest," Ariel said.

"This will mean that there are thousands more who are contributing money to make this possible, and tens of thousands of others who support them."

Ariel, whose husband teaches at the Od Yoseph Hai yeshiva at Joseph's Tomb in Nablus, denied she came to Jerusalem merely to "vent frustration. We came to focus the frustration of the nation."

Fatah wins Bethlehem student elections

JON IMMANUEL

A FATAH-affiliated list backing the peace process won the Bethlehem University student council elections yesterday, the first student elections since the Cairo agreement. The list also increased its margin of victory over that in last year's election.

The Fatah list won 658-556. The 102-vote margin compared with a 28-vote margin in the previous elections, said university spokesman Mussa Darwish.

Posters in the university quadrangle made clear that the election was highly political. Pictures of PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat abounded. But the most notable picture was a huge wall poster of the Cave of Machpela, bathed in blood, a rifle pointed towards a bullet-shattered Star of David, and the date of the Hebron massacre printed at the bottom.

Three lists contested the election. The Freedom and Independence List represented Fatah and the People's Party. The former communist People's Party rejected the Cairo agreement, but accepted the Gaza-Jericho first idea in the Oslo accords. The opposition Popular Front and the Democratic Fronts had made a secret deal with Hamas to share seats, but were running separately as the National Democratic and Islamic lists.

"These elections are the most political in years," said student Ahmed Abdel-Hadi, 24, who backed the Islamic List.

"The main political goal is to support the PLO and its policy of making sure Gaza-Jericho will lead to a Palestinian state with its capital in Jerusalem," said Ahed Anissa, a People's Party supporter, who ran for secretary of the council.

Jibril Rajoub, head of the Palestinian security services in Jericho, was the only major Palestinian personality to address the students during the campaign.

Ted Lurie remembered

TED R. Lurie, the editor of *The Jerusalem Post* who died while on a visit to Tokyo 20 years ago today, was, technically at least, the best editor I have ever come across. A mere glance at a piece of copy was enough for him to tell a hapless sub-editor exactly what was wrong with a story.

This uncanny talent was compounded of his lightning ability to analyze the significance of information about any given situation and to get to the essence of its presentation through the precise use of language. His often devastating criticism was backed by grammatical chapter and verse: He could quote most of Fowler's *English Usage* by heart.

Less generous with praise and bonuses than his mentor, founder-editor Gershon Agron, Ted nevertheless gave to his staff an invaluable daily gift: constructive criticism and expert instruction. Notes from TRL were feared and an occasional thank you treasured. Working a split shift, TRL arrived at his office in the morning and finally left only after the paper was "put to bed," well after midnight. He daily put his finger on every error, while managing or overseeing all the paper's administrative and financial matters. It was a pace, kept up for over two decades, that was bound to affect his health.

Born in the US, Ted graduated Cornell before coming here in the early 1930s, obtaining a job as *The Palestine Post's* reporter in Haifa. He soon became a sub-editor, then head of desk. He was managing editor when the *Post* was shattered by a terror bomb planted in a British army vehicle; and worked throughout the night to evacuate casualties and ensure that the paper appeared the next morning, printed tabloid size at a neighboring job-printing press. He and Agron kept the paper in publication throughout the siege of Jerusalem. When it could not be distributed, they stuffed bales of the papers into windows, to absorb shell splinters.

Like Agron, TRL was a staunch supporter of Mapai and a bitter foe of parties to the left and right; but he later sided with David Ben-Gurion and the Rafi Party, supported by his ubiquitous assistant editor Lea Ben Dor. A vengeful Mapai installed an in-house watchdog, who proved no match for the editors. The watchdog later resigned.

It was during Ted's tenure that the *Post* switched to cold type and web-offset color printing, the first Israeli paper to do so.

Meir Ronnen

SOCIAL & PERSONAL

The weekly meeting of the English-speaking Jerusalem Rotary Club will take place today at 1 p.m. at the YMCA, King David Street. Engineer Eli Sivan will speak on the desalination plans.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Namir warns social workers to end strike

Labor and Social Affairs Minister Ora Namir yesterday warned the country's social workers to immediately call off their strike, saying she would "take all possible steps to end it." Speaking at the Social Workers Union headquarters last night, Namir told the social workers they could not expect an offer better than the one proposed by the Treasury on Monday night. (Itim)

Deri blasts PLO leaders' remarks

Shas leader Aryeh Deri yesterday blasted recent remarks by PLO leaders, adding that if they continue, negotiations with the PLO should be halted. Deri said he attacked the PLO leaders' remarks because they constituted a violation of the agreement reached with the PLO. He said no one was happy with the remarks, noting that Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin had also criticized them. He denied that Shas would make any political demands in negotiations over its return to the coalition.

Winning cards

In yesterday's Mifal Hapayis daily Chance card draw, the lucky cards were the king of spades, ace of hearts, nine of diamonds and nine of clubs.

In last night's weekly Lotto drawing, the winning numbers were 3, 5, 8, 28, 31, and 49, while the additional number was 20.

HEALTH

(Continued from Page One)

been a universal tax imposed on all health fund members, whether or not they belonged to an organization providing them with social services.

For example, a member of Kupat Holim Clalit who did not belong to the Histadrut would have been forced to pay 0.8 percent of his income to an organization to which he did not belong.

The 'human service' tax would have caused a serious problem for the NRP, whose parent organization, Hapoel Hamizrahi, currently receives a portion of the health tax paid by its members to Kupat Holim Clalit. Under the 'human service' arrangement, the money would have gone to the Histadrut instead.

According to Israel Radio, NRP head Zevulun Hammer met with Rabin yesterday morning and complained bitterly about the proposal, accusing Shas and Ramon of deliberately trying to harm his party. Rabin reportedly told Hammer he would order the Labor MKs to vote against the bill.

Yesterday, Ramon and his aides decided to abandon Shohat's proposal. Unlike the 'human service' tax, the 'workers' organization' tax will only apply to health fund members who belong to a worker's organization. Those who have no representation will not have to pay the tax.

To Albert and Family

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Marietta and family

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Aloni opens network of environment research centers

LIAT COLLINS

SCIENCE Minister Shulamit Aloni crossed the Green Line yesterday to inaugurate a network of five environmental research and development centers.

The centers are financed by the ministry's Maof project and the Society for the Protection of Nature in Israel, together with various universities. The first center, visited by Aloni, was at the Har Gilo Field School.

Each center focuses on a different subject. The Har Gilo center is equipped with a special radar to help research cloud formation and movement, as well as bird migration. Representatives of the Meteorological Service said they could use the information to help with decisions concerning cloud seeding, while Lt.-Col. Yossi Rosner, in charge of the IAF's safety division, said the data helped prevent serous accidents caused by birds flying into aircraft.

"We've learned that we must live with nature and not against it," Aloni said. "Environmental awareness has brought about recognition of the fact that we must preserve our natural resources, not just so we will have a place to go hiking but so we can live better. Our experience with draining the Hula taught us that we cannot return to slogans of covering the land in concrete and cement.

"I'm happy to see that there is awareness not just by green fundamentalist fanatics, but also by scientists," she said, adding that such centers provided employment opportunities for immigrant scientists.

Science Ministry Director-General Zvi Yanai noted that the ministry is currently providing NIS 7 million in support of environmental research projects.

Among the subjects being studied at other environmental research centers are fresh and sea water; seismological activity; and desert wildlife and vegetation.

Amos Hausner (left), head of the Israel Anti-Smoking Society, poses with Yishai Yefet, who won $3,000 and a flight to the Czech Republic in a lottery for people who gave up smoking, one of the events which marked World No-Tobacco Day yesterday. (Avi Hayun)

Israeli, Palestinian anti-smoking groups join forces in Nablus

JUDY SIEGEL

ISRAELIS and Nablus Palestinians have decided to join forces in the battle against smoking.

The Israel Society for the Prevention of Smoking and the Anti-Smoking and Deadly Drugs Society in Nablus have jointly placed anti-tobacco advertisements in Arabic newspapers.

Amos Hausner, head of the Israel Anti-Smoking Society, said both groups will work towards reducing the smoking rate in the territories.

Hausner announced this at a Health Ministry ceremony during which he became the first Israeli to receive a medallion for anti-smoking efforts from the World Health Organization.

He appealed to cigarette vendors "with a conscience" to stop selling tobacco products, so that they will not be partners to disease and death among their customers.

"Think about the fearful responsibility you are taking on yourself every day when, like placing an obstacle in front of a blind man, you knowingly sell an addictive product that may very likely cause him to die in pain and agony," Hausner said.

An anti-smoking stand set up in the Knesset yesterday did not arouse much interest among the handful of MKs in the building, but it was a big hit among Knesset employees, who bombarded the volunteers for information on smoking-cessation courses and anti-smoking hats.

The Health Ministry and Israel Cancer Association are considering the possibility of organizing such courses in the Knesset building, as they do in numerous workplaces.

Tuviya Lehrer, chairman of the anti-smoking society, said he was optimistic that health minister-designate Dr. Ephraim Sneh would quickly sign the amendment barring smoking in all workplaces. "He is not only a physician, but his father, a doctor who was a heavy smoker, died of cancer, so he personally knows of the risks," Lehrer said.

Liat Collins adds:

Communication, Science and Arts Minister Shulamit Aloni said she was not aware that yesterday had been declared World Non-Smoking Day.

"I don't believe in these sort of days which are just 'anti' everything and demonstrative," she told *The Jerusalem Post* as she lit up yet another cigarette. "Anyway at my age, I'm too old to change my habits.

"I don't think that when it comes to smoking, I have to provide a public example," added the former Education Minister.

Yad Vashem slams both gays, protestors over memorial fracas

UNDER fire yesterday for permitting a remembrance ceremony for homosexual victims of the Nazis, Yad Vashem condemned both the participants and the protesters, saying they "brought disgrace on the site."

At Monday's ceremony, police dragged away four religious protesters who tried to disrupt the first-ever gay memorial, staged by 150 gays and lesbians from 12 North American and European countries.

Reacting to the ceremony, portions of which were shown on TV news, National Religious Party MK Shaul Yahalom demanded the resignation of Yad Vasem chairman Yosef Burg.

"This group of homosexuals and lesbians have done harm to the traditional national consensus over remembering the Holocaust," Yahalom wrote Burg. "A loud protest is called for to make up in some small way for this defilement of God's name."

Other religious protesters also condemned the ceremony as inappropriate, stressing that homosexuality is forbidden by Halacha.

Yad Vashem initially avoided comment, saying it permitted the ceremony simply in keeping with a rule allowing anyone to hold memorials to Holocaust victims.

Later yesterday, it issued a three-paragraph statement voicing "sorrow about the provocation." It blamed both the homosexuals and those who protested their gathering, saying they "brought disgrace on the site with their violent behavior."

The statement stressed that Yad Vashem was not involved in running or sponsoring the ceremony, but that the Hall of Remembrance, where it took place, is open to all "to lay wreaths and pray, as long as this is performed in a dignified fashion."

Burg was quoted by *Hatsofeh*, the NRP newspaper, as saying the gays staged a "deliberate provocation."

Defending Yad Vashem's decision to allow the service, he was quoted as saying that the gays would have petitioned the High Court and been permitted to hold the service even if authorities had tried to stop them.

Knesset Speaker Shevah Weiss, a Holocaust survivor, criticized those who condemned the ceremony. "Recognizing an individual's right to be different is a supreme right in upholding a human and democratic social system," he said.

Weiss said Holocaust survivors should be sensitive to the suffering of homosexuals, whom he said were among "the first guinea pigs" of the Nazis. (AP)

Transport Ministry announces crackdown on overloaded trucks

HAIM SHAPIRO

IN a crackdown on overloaded trucks, Transport Minister Yisrael Kessar said yesterday that his ministry would erect weighing stations at the country's ports and on the highways.

Kessar told ministry officials that he is preparing legislation which would revoke the licenses of drivers who exceeded the maximum weight load for their vehicles.

To enforce the rules, the ministry is to install two weighing stations each in the Ashdod and Haifa ports this year, with more to be added in the future. In addition, there are to be both permanent and movable stations on the major highways, to be operated by the ministry and the police.

According to Kessar, an overloaded truck is three times more likely to be involved in an accident than one carrying its legal maximum load.

New boss for ETV

After 20 years in the position, Educational Television Director-General, Ya'acov Lauberbaum retired yesterday, handing over his position to Ahuva Feinmesser.

Feinmesser is the first woman director-general in any of the country's broadcasting companies.

Feinmesser has also been been involved in senior positions with ETV and the Education Ministry for the last 20 years.

NEWS IN BRIEF

New asst. military secretary for PM

Maj. Eldad Shavit will be appointed assistant military secretary to Prime Minister and Defense Minister Yitzhak Rabin.

Shavit, who currently serves as OC Military Intelligence Uri Saguy's executive officer, will replace Col. Amos Gilad, who was recently appointed IDF Spokesman. The military secretary to Rabin is Maj.-Gen. Danny Yatom.

Gasoline prices go up

The price of gasoline and fuel oil goes up today, the Energy Ministry announced yesterday.

Unleaded gasoline (95 octane) will now cost NIS 1.99 a liter, up 1.5 percent; and 96 octane NIS 2.03, up 1%. Light fuel oil prices go up 2.4%, and heavy fuel oil, 4.4%.

Artificial heart recipient dies

A 23-year-old woman who was attached to an artificial heart at Petah Tikva's Beilinson Hospital on Monday died yesterday.

Doctors had hoped that the unique device might keep her alive until a human heart would become available, but her condition was so serious that she had to also be attached to a dialysis machine and an artificial lung.

Compromise on Caesarea mosque

A compromise was reached yesterday concerning the fate of an old mosque in Caesarea which currently houses a popular restaurant at the national park there.

Environment Minister Yossi Sarid, responsible for national parks, intervened on the eve of a planned High Court petition by Moslem representatives who wanted the restaurant to be recognized as an active place of worship, with free entrance to the site.

According to the compromise, the restaurant will be removed from the old mosque but the national park will continue to function regularly as a historical-archeological reserve.

Immigrants double number of doctors

Jerusalem Post Staff

THE recent years' immigration wave from the former Soviet Union has doubled the number of trained doctors in Israel, but only a quarter of the arrivals have found work in their field, the Absorption Ministry said yesterday.

The 12,000 doctors who have arrived since late 1989 are equivalent to the number of those already practicing in the country, the ministry said in a statement.

Of the new arrivals, some 3,000 have found work in their field and now constitute a fifth of Israeli doctors. Another 5,000 passed equivalence exams but have not found medical positions.

The statement said that despite the saturation of their job market, 15 of every 1,000 immigrants currently arriving are doctors and 29 are nurses.

Bezek to start emergency phone service

JUDY SIEGEL

BEZEK and Secutec, a Koor subsidiary, will soon offer a service that will connect subscribers to an emergency center if they lift the phone receiver for 10 seconds without dialing.

Billed as the first of its kind in the world, it is aimed primarily at elderly and sickly people who live alone, as well as working parents who leave "latch-key children" alone at home. It will be available to anyone whose phone is linked to the special digital equipment that allows use of the *41 *42 and *43 service (just dial 199 to find if you are one of them). All telephones in such areas can use the service, even an old-fashioned circular-dialling phone.

The service, called *Kodem Kol*, will automatically link subscribers in distress to one of seven emergency centers. The person on duty will call an ambulance, the police, the fire service, or even an electrician or plumber, depending on the problem.

The Bezek-Secutec service will begin within two months as an experimental effort, and then expand to the rest of the country.

Announcing

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June 19-24, 1994

Hosted by JNF Israel

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Representatives of many countries will be attending

The workshop will be addressed by numerous dignitaries and experts in the field, including:
- American Ambassador to Israel Edward P. Djerejian
- Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres
- Minister of the Environment Yossi Sarid
- Minister of Agriculture Yaacov Tzur
- JNF World Chairman Moshe Rivlin

The workshop convenes at the Laromme Jerusalem Hotel on June 19 and includes a field trip to the Negev Desert on June 22. A book will be published on the workshop's findings. Public participation is invited.

For further information, write or call Dr. Jim P.M. Chamie at the IALC, 845 N. Park Avenue, Tucson, Arizona 84719, tel.: 602-621-3024; or Mrs. Rama Hefetz at the JNF Land Development Authority, 1 Keren Kayemeth St., PO Box 283, Jerusalem 91002, Israel, tel.: 972-2-707417.

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Mormon leader Benson dies

SALT LAKE CITY, Utah (Reuter) – The leader of the world's 8.7 million Mormons, Ezra Taft Benson, died Monday of congestive heart failure, the Mormon Church announced. He was 94 and died at his home in Salt Lake City.

Benson, a former US secretary of agriculture, had been in failing health in recent years and his last public appearance was at the funeral of his wife of 65 years, Flora, on August 19, 1992.

Benson was treated at LDS Hospital, owned by the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, on Sunday night but he had returned home shortly afterward.

Benson was the 13th president of the Mormon Church, leading the organization since 1985.

Known for his outspoken conservative views, he served for eight years in President Eisenhower's cabinet as secretary of agriculture and was the first clergyman in 100 years to attain cabinet rank.

An independent thinking westerner, Benson was sharply criticized by Democrats and Republicans alike during his tenure as agriculture secretary for his opposition to government farm price support systems.

In the 1960s, after his stint in Washington, Benson presided over the European Mission of the Mormon Church, which was founded in the US in 1830.

Man charged with killing 7 backpackers

SYDNEY (Reuter) – An Australian road worker was charged yesterday with murdering seven foreign and Australian backpackers – one of whom had her head severed by a single blow – after the biggest manhunt in the country's history.

No plea was entered by 49-year-old Ivan Milat, who listened without emotion as the murder charges were read out in a tiny court room at Campbelltown on the southern outskirts of Sydney.

But prominent Sydney lawyer John Marsden said his client was innocent, and questioned whether he would receive a fair trial because of the intense publicity surrounding the case.

The court heard how one of the bodies of seven backpackers found in 1992 and 1993 in the Belanglo State Forest, 100 kilometers south of Sydney, had been decapitated by a single blow. Two others had been shot several times in the head.

Milat was charged with murdering Australians James Gibson and girlfriend Deborah Everist, both 19, on or about December 30, 1989; German Simone Schmidl, 20, around January 20, 1991; Germans Gabor Neugebauer, 21, and Anja Habschied, 20, both around December 26, 1991; and Britons Caroline Clarke, 22, and Joanne Walters, 22, around April 18, 1992.

Senior prosecutor Ian Lloyd said some victims were gagged and there was evidence some were sexually assaulted.

"Habschied's head had been severed at the neck, apparently in one blow and despite an extensive search the head has not been located," Lloyd told the court.

Neugebauer had a cloth stuffed in his mouth and was shot six times in the back of the head, Lloyd said.

He said Schmidl had stab wounds to her back and Gibson died from multiple stab wounds, while Everist was shot dead. Walters also suffered stab wounds and there was evidence she was sexually assaulted. Clarke was shot 10 times in the head.

Milat was remanded in custody until his next appearance on June 28. He did not apply for bail.

African Jewish Congress established

HARARE, Zimbabwe (AP) – Jews living in Africa called on the Organization of African Unity to recognize Israel in a statement issued Monday at the founding meeting of the African Jewish Congress.

The agreement on Palestinian autonomy prompted some African states to re-established ties with Israel, broken by most OAU members during the Six Day War.

Relations between Israel and black Africa were further strained by allegations of military cooperation between Israel and the white minority government that once ruled South Africa.

Some 150 delegates and observers attended the two-day African Jewish Congress meeting. The delegates in Harare resolved to "become the voice of all Jewish communities in sub-Saharan Africa, and to coordinate cultural, religious, and social activities between their small and dispersed communities."

"This congress... expresses its full support and congratulations to the parties engaged in the peace process on the success so far achieved, which constitutes an important contribution towards a comprehensive, just, and lasting peace in the Middle East," it said.

"It calls on the OAU and its member states to normalize their relations with Israel."

An estimated 100,000 Jews live in sub-Saharan Africa. More than 70,000 are South African, and most of the rest are Zimbabwean, Malawian, Zairean or Angolan, a congress spokesman said.

German troops to again march down Champs-Elysees

MULHOUSE, France (AP) — For the first time since the war, German troops will march down the Champs-Elysees in France's traditional military parade July 14, President Francois Mitterrand announced yesterday.

Mitterrand made the announcement during his summit with German Chancellor Helmut Kohl, the two countries' 63rd since World War II and a meeting heavy on symbolism just days before the 50th anniversary of D-Day.

Germany has not been invited to the D-Day ceremonies, but during their two-day meeting that concluded yesterday in this border city, Mitterrand and Kohl have sought to demonstrate their countries' strong relations.

"I've decided to invite for the 14th of July the Eurocorps, and as a consequence German, Belgian, Luxembourg and Spanish members will participate," Mitterrand said, referring to the fledgling European army founded by France and Germany.

July 14th, or Bastille Day, the anniversary of the Revolution in 1789, traditionally includes a military parade down Paris' grandest avenue between the Arch of Triumph and Place de la Concorde.

The image of this year's parade would be in sharp contrast to the one during World War II, when Hitler's troops goose-stepped down the Champs-Elysees to the horror of the vanquished French.

Earlier yesterday, the two countries reaffirmed their intention to jointly build a military transport plane. France also urged Germany to join in a military reconnaissance satellite program.

Kohl also returned paintings looted from France by Hitler's troops during World War II. The 28 works had hung in an East German museum since the war.

After the Berlin Wall fell in 1989, German authorities tried to track down the rightful owners.

One painting, an untitled canvas by Claude Monet from the 1870s, shows a snowy road in the countryside near Paris.

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Defrocked Muslim preacher held in assassination attempt

RIVERSIDE, Calif. (AP) – The man accused of trying to assassinate former Nation of Islam spokesman Khallid Abdul Mohammed was a defrocked minister in the sect who police said had armed himself heavily before the attack.

James Edward Bess allegedly used a .9mm pistol in the attack, hitting Mohammed in the legs and wounding four bodyguards and a bystander outside the university auditorium where the black Muslim leader was speaking on Sunday.

Police also found two loaded .9mm handguns in a backpack and a loaded rifle with a scope in a car nearby, Police Chief Ken Fortier said. Both the backpack and the car were believed to belong to Bess.

Fortier also said police were trying to learn the source of a note that was handed to Mohammed on stage, moments before the shooting. Mohammed read the note, and then suggested that the crowd leave the auditorium.

"I don't see it as a diversion," Fortier said, discounting the possibility of a conspiracy to lure Mohammed outside to the relatively unprotected parking lot. "The note does not appear to be significant."

Fortier gave no motive for the attack but said police believe Bess acted alone. The police chief said Bess would be charged with six counts of attempted murder.

Bess, 49, of Tacoma, Wash., was expelled as a minister three years ago because his preaching differed from church doctrine and he was trying to set up his own power base, the retired founder of the Seattle chapter of the Nation of Islam told *The New York Times*.

"Though he would use the Islamic cloak, he was trying to start his own following," Raquib Muied said.

Still, Bess continued to support Nation of Islam leader Louis Farrakhan on public-access cable TV in Seattle and wrote in newspaper columns that Farrakhan was "The Second Coming of Jesus."

Syid Suni Askia, a member of Seattle's small black Muslim community who has long known both Bess and Mohammed, said it was public knowledge that Bess was at odds with the people surrounding Farrakhan.

"He had differences with the way Mohammed presented Farrakhan," Askia said.

Mohammed was suspended as Farrakhan's senior aide after a November speech in which he called Jews "the bloodsuckers" of the black community, called the pope a "no-good cracker" and urged the killing of South African whites.

Both Bess and Khallid Mohammed remained hospitalized yesterday under police guard. Bess was in satisfactory condition with a broken shoulder and other injuries. Mohammed, 46, was in stable condition with gunshot wounds to both legs.

Mohammed was out of bed and walking around, said Nation of Islam security guards who refused to give their names. The leaders hadn't signed a release allowing doctors to remove a bullet, a hospital administrator said.

Two of the four wounded security guards and the bystander who was shot also remained hospitalized, one in serious condition.

Mohammed was shot in a parking lot after he unexpectedly left through an unguarded door following a two-hour speech at the University of California at Riverside. During the speech, he said whites are satanic and Jews oppressors.

Witnesses said Mohammed was answering questions when he was shot from less than 10 feet away. A crowd of up to 70 people – some yelling, "He works for the Jews!" – beat the gunman bloody before police rescued him.

"That man would be dead" if police hadn't drawn their guns and pulled him away, university spokesman Jack Chappell said.

Farrakhan aide long held racist views

GEORGE E. JORDAN
WASHINGTON

NEARLY two decades ago in Uganda, Khallid Abdul Mohammed said he was aiding dictator Idi Amin's dream of overthrowing the white South African government when he got on the telephone with his old friend, Nation of Islam leader Louis Farrakhan in Chicago.

Farrakhan asked for help restarting the Nation of Islam, which Mohammed had abandoned after the death of its founder and the religious organization's renunciation of white separatism.

"I was in Kampala, Uganda, ready to kill some white folks when I put the call through," Mohammed, 48, said February 19 in a speech in Baltimore. "I thought the Nation of Islam was gone, never to come back again. From that point on, I have been at the side of Minister Louis Farrakhan in the rebuilding of the Nation of Islam."

Mohammed, who was virtually unknown outside the black community until his now infamous antisemitic speech on November 29 at Kean College in New Jersey, has specialized for years in acid-tongued denunciations of whites, Jews, Catholics and mainstream black leaders.

He was one of Farrakhan's most trusted aides before he was demoted in February for his rhetoric at Kean College, which included calling Jews "bloodsuckers." At the closed-door rally in Baltimore, Mohammed defended his remarks, saying, "Never will I say I am not an antisemite."

And he explained that his harsh public rhetoric was to help strengthen Farrakhan's standing by being the "lightning rod to attract the opposition."

To his supporters, Mohammed is what one writer has called the high priest of "theological gangster rap," an extremist mix of the Old Testament and the Nation of Islam's old "white devil" dogma delivered in rapid-fire speeches. His mocking attacks remind them of the oratory of the young Farrakhan.

"I don't have any love for the other side. It's not in me. I don't want no integration. I want independence for a nation of my own," he said in February in Baltimore.

Khallid Abdul Mohammed gestures as he speaks at Trenton State College, Ewing, NJ, on February 28, 1994. He offered a conciliatory speech, saying he came not to teach hate but to teach blacks to love themselves. (AP file)

Mohammed, born Harold Moore Vann, calls himself a "knowledge gangster" and "truth terrorist" who has a large following among mostly young black college radicals, West Coast gang members and old-line black nationalists.

They flock to his speeches around the country by the hundreds, and his fame has been spread among the hip-hop generation by prominent rap artists incorporating excerpts from his speeches in their songs. There exists a whole underground network in major urban centers that circulates audio and videotapes of Mohammed's fiery lectures.

"The brother has a spirit," said Professor Griff, a former member of the rap group Public Enemy, which in 1989 became the first to include excerpts of Mohammed's speeches in its songs. "If you are about revolution and change you have to lend him your heart as well as your ear."

Griff said he first learned of Mohammed from an audio tape of a speech offered by a friend. Like many of Mohammed's admirers, Griff said his remarks at Kean College were not his harshest. "It's nothing new. It was light compared to some of the things [tapes] I have."

Federal court records, interviews with longtime friends and supporters and a review of audio tapes of nearly a dozen of his speeches since 1976 obtained by *New York Newsday* paint the picture of a man firmly grounded on the fringes of radical black politics.

Mohammed has gone by at least six aliases since 1976, while his wife of at least six years, Jennifer Hillings Moore, has gone by at least two aliases, records show.

He was minister of Mohammed's Mosque 7 in Harlem for only a year before being named Farrakhan's national spokesman. That move marked a turning point for Mohammed, who began to crisscross the nation, stepping up his attacks on Jews and whites in the name of black empowerment.

Mohammed ratcheted up his volume at a time Farrakhan sought to soften his image and to forge alliances with national elected and civil rights leaders. Both Mohammed and Farrakhan have insisted the flap over the Kean College speech has not created a rift.

Despite his demotion, Mohammed has continued to speak out. He has founded a youth organization, Unity Nation, that is active in the Washington-Baltimore area.

"Right now Khalid just fills a void," said a third-generation black Muslim from Brooklyn who maintains an archive of Nation of Islam speeches. He requested anonymity. "Farrakhan is trying to be more diplomatic, but Khalid is just like an early Farrakhan. He sounds just like an early Farrakhan. His makeup is a warrior spirit."

Mohammed was born in Texas. He has said he joined the Chicago-based Nation of Islam in 1967, after hearing Farrakhan speak at Dillard University in New Orleans, where Mohammed was an undergraduate student between 1966 and 1970.

The Nation of Islam began in 1930, when Elijah Mohammed followed the teachings of a Detroit salesman named Wallace Fard, who preached he was the incarnation of Allah. One of the secretive organization's basic tenets was the belief that blacks were chosen by God to form their own nation separate from whites.

Arguably one of its most famous members, Malcolm X, renounced the group's racial politics and left the organization before his assassination in 1965.

Khalid Mohammed was active in the Nation of Islam in various cities until 1975, when Elijah Mohammed died and his son, Warith Deen, denounced white separatism and began to push the organization toward mainstream orthodox Islam.

Khalid Mohammed remained with the group under the name Maleek Rashadeen for a year before dropping out and moving to Africa. In 1977, he returned when Farrakhan, a Boston native born Louis Eugene Walcott, asked him to help revive the separatist Nation of Islam.

Newsday

Ministry of Education and Sport — Ministry of Science and the Arts

Israel Music and Dance Day

499 performances at educational institutes and venues throughout Israel

THURSDAY, JUNE 2, 1994

Main events on the eve of Music and Dance Day, Wednesday, June 1:

Kfar Saba Municipal Cultural Hall (youth choirs contest)
Binyenei Ha'uma (winds orchestra)
Kikar Safra, Jerusalem (vocal groups)

Main events on Music and Dance Day, Thursday, June 2:
Tel Aviv Museum (finals of youth choirs contest)
Neve Eliezer (Special Education concerts)
Megiddo Regional Council (National Dance Day)
Jinsr a-Zarka (The Israel Ballet and the Bat-Sheva Dance Company)
Bakaelnaswa (student dance performance)
Mann Auditorium, Tel Aviv (matinee concert for students, Philharmonic Orchestra)
Tel Aviv Museum (Israel Chamber Orchestra)
Other Special Music and Dance Events
will take place at Yavne, Beit Arye, Bat Yam, Upper Galilee, Yoav, Sha'ar Hanegev, Ramla, Rishon Lezion, Ra'anana, Karmiel, Ness Ziona, Nazareth, Tel Sheva, Haifa, Tiberias, Upper Nazareth, Kiryat Shmona, Petah Tikva, Ramat Gan, Givat Brenner, Kochav Yair, Ma'aleh Ephraim, Bnei Brak, Yehud, Mateh Yehuda, Beersheba, Baka el Gharbiya, Deburya.

Educational Television and Kol Yisrael will devote broadcasts to Music and Dance Day.

In cooperation with Omanut La'am, there will be listening and creative workshops for music and dance, and these will be open to the public. Most schools, kindergartens, matnasim, cultural halls, conservatoria, and community centers throughout Israel are organizing events, at which they will host choirs, youth groups, student and young performers, immigrants and veterans, from all sectors of society and all fields of Israeli culture - singers, conductors, choirs, orchestras, vocal groups, composers, dancers, and choreographers, of all styles and schools.

Israel Music and Dance Day 1994, the first such day, was initiated by Prof. Amnon Rubinstein, the Minister of Education, Culture and Sport, and Mrs. Shulamit Aloni, Minister of Science and the Arts.

Culture Administration, Culture and the Arts Division ● Matnasim Corporation ● Social and Youth Administration ★ Culture and the Arts in the Neighborhoods

SA rejoins Commonwealth

LONDON (AP) – South Africa takes another step back into the world community today when it officially rejoins the Commonwealth, an organization of Britain and its former colonies.

Commonwealth Secretary-General Emeka Anyaoku announced "with a special sense of joy" that South Africa will become the 51st member of the Commonwealth on June 1 following "the end of apartheid and the dawn of freedom."

South Africa's membership was suspended 33 years ago because of its policy of racial separation.

"I believe South Africa's return to the Commonwealth will be one way... of putting the seal on the principles of the Commonwealth, namely democracy and pluralism," Anyaoku told a news conference yesterday.

"The return of a non-racial democratic South Africa... is a boost for the association, not least in the task of making the world safer for diversity," he said.

Queen Elizabeth II, who heads the Commonwealth, sent a message of congratulations to South African President Nelson Mandela.

The Commonwealth's members agreed in October 1993 to welcome a non-racist and democratic South Africa back into the organization at the earliest opportunity after elections, which were held last month.

Last week, the UN Security Council ended a 10-year ban on countries buying arms from South Africa. The ban was the last of a series of sanctions imposed by the United Nations to pressure South Africa to end white-minority rule.

The Commonwealth plans to co-sponsor a conference with the United Nations in mid-September for potential donors "to help South Africa make up for the huge gaps made by years of apartheid," Anyaoku said.

"South Africa will — I expect — be at the Commonwealth Games in Canada later this year," Anyaoku said. The games, from Aug. 18-28, are being held in Victoria.

To mark South Africa's return to the Commonwealth, a multi-faith service will be held at Westminster Abbey on July 20, attended by Queen Mother Queen Elizabeth and Archbishop Desmond Tutu.

Baron Bich, Bic Pen creator, dies

PARIS (AP) – Baron Marcel Bich, who built his empire by creating throwaway Bic pens, razors and lighters, has died, family members said yesterday. He was 79.

Bich, also known for his repeated entries in the Americas Cup, died Monday night in Paris, the family said in a communique. The cause of his death was not given.

Born July 29, 1914, in Turin, Italy, to a baroness and a baron who was an engineer, Bich studied in French secondary schools, opted for French citizenship and studied law in Paris. He began his career as a fountain pen salesman.

The cheap, throwaway pen Bich introduced in the early 1950s became a hit worldwide, and he later produced Bic razors and lighters using the same concept.

Rostenkowski indicted for corruption

Influential Clinton ally confident he'll be vindicated

LARRY MARGASAK
WASHINGTON

A FEDERAL grand jury indicted a top congressional ally of President Clinton on 17 charges of corruption in office yesterday.

The charges against Dan Rostenkowski, chairman of the House of Representatives Ways and Means Committee, include mail fraud, wire fraud, tampering with a witness, concealing a material fact, embezzlement of public funds, and aiding and abetting a crime.

As head of the committee which approves the government's budget, Rostenkowski is one of the most powerful figures in Washington and a key player in Clinton's attempt to establish a national health care system.

Rostenkowski, a Democrat from Chicago, has been under investigation for two years.

He was suspected of padding his payroll with employees who did no work and cashing in office stamps for personal gain.

The indictment, a formal list of charges, came a day after Rostenkowski defiantly rejected a plea agreement and vowed to fight government allegations that he defrauded taxpayers of hundreds of thousands of dollars.

"I am confident that I will be vindicated," Rostenkowski said in a statement Monday.

The indictment will force him to step aside as Ways and Means chairman.

Rostenkowski's decision to fight the charges meant, under House rules, that he must give up his powerful chairmanship at a time the committee is playing a central role in the health care reform debate.

But Rostenkowski, 66, will remain a member of the House, and of the Ways and Means Committee.

He vowed to seek a 19th term even as he fights the charges.

Fellow Democratic Rep. Sam Gibbons is in line to take over the committee, among the most powerful in Congress because of its jurisdiction over taxes, Social Security and the financing of many other major programs.

Grand jury proceedings usually are secret, but because of the plea negotiations, it was clear the government was ready to charge Rostenkowski if he did not reach an agreement with prosecutors.

So Washington began assessing the impact of his departure as chairman even before the indictment was officially issued.

Asked whether Rostenkowski's departure would hurt health care reform, Vice President Al Gore said, "No. There's a lot of momentum for health care."

"He's been an important player on health care ... and certainly the members have made it clear they will continue to work with him, and that's true of the White House as well," Press Secretary Dee Dee Myers said Friday.

Rostenkowski has hired Robert Bennett, a Washington lawyer who is also defending President Clinton in a civil case brought by a former Arkansas state employee who claims that the then-governor tried to make her perform oral sex.

The outline of the government's case against Rostenkowski includes a charge that he obtained cash illegally from the House Post Office. Former House Postmaster Robert Rota has alleged that he transferred $21,000 to Rostenkowski.

It also claims that Rostenkowski had a number of so-called ghost employees, who did no work, on his office payroll and that he improperly used government funds to buy expensive gifts for friends from the House office supply service.

UN suspends Rwanda activity after officer killed by mortar blast

KIGALI (Reuter) – The UN mission in Rwanda suspended all operations after a senior officer with its force was killed by a mortar blast yesterday.

The development could prolong the agony of thousands of civilians from both the majority Hutu and minority Tutsi tribes trapped in each other's strongholds under fear of attack.

Fighting between rebels and government troops for control of the capital forced a halt to the process after evacuations on Friday and Saturday but the UN had hoped its convoys would start ferrying civilians as early as yesterday.

The UN force known as UNAMIR said all movement of officers and convoys had been suspended until the situation stabilized.

The dead officer, identified only as a Senegalese, was an UN observer described by a colleague as "the bravest man in the outfit" and one of the most experienced in UNAMIR.

He was hit in his UN car on a city center bridge just inside the government-held part of the city. The UN made clear the shell was fired from a rebel position.

A UN armored personnel carrier and several vehicles rushed to the scene, where the officer was still in his car with a large piece of shrapnel in his head. He was the 12th peacekeeper killed in Rwanda since violence flared on April 6.

"It is inhuman to ask someone to go out when he sees his friend has fallen," UNAMIR's deputy force commander Brigadier-General Henry Anyidoho told reporters. "We have tried to talk to both [warring] sides every day to let us continue humanitarian assistance. They just don't seem to listen."

The dead peacekeeper was a liaison officer with the Rwanda Patriotic Front rebels and was helping protect thousands of civilians, mainly Tutsis trapped behind front lines. He was returning to UNAMIR after a patrol when he was hit.

The officer's death came hard on the heels of reports of a new massacre, itself a threat to UN peace plans in Rwanda.

Earlier the UN rushed investigators to a camp in government-held territory where aid workers said 500 people were massacred on Saturday.

Croats, Moslems to choose leaders

SARAJEVO, Bosnia-Herzegovina (AP) – Moslems were fighting Serbs across much of Bosnia yesterday, but joined their former Croat enemies to elect leaders for a joint federation that would cover part of the republic.

Kresimir Zubak, the Croat leader elected president of the new Moslem-Croat federation, invited Bosnian Serbs to join the federation.

But the Serbs, who hold 70 percent of the land after more than two years of war, have rejected such a linkup and insist instead on their right to join neighboring, Serb-led Yugoslavia.

Ejup Ganic, a member of the presidency of the Moslem-led Bosnian government, was named vice president of the new federation by the meeting in Sarajevo. He and Zubak were elected unanimously.

The US-mediated federation agreement last March united the Moslems, who accounted for 43 percent of Bosnia's pre-war population, and the Croats, who made up 17 percent.

Zubak said the federation would be "based on the absolute equality of our ethnic groups."

The two communities cooperated at the start of the war, but later fought a bitter, year-long battle for control of central Bosnia.

Fighting raged across much of Bosnia Tuesday as government forces and Bosnian Serbs battled for control of communication lines.

Moslem-led government troops were reported to be continuing a series of thrusts aimed at winning control of strongholds enabling the Serbs to keep much of central Bosnia within range of their artillery.

Both sides are trying to improve their battlefield positions before UN-sponsored talks on a general cease-fire, scheduled for Geneva tomorrow and Friday.

Belgrade's *Vecernje Novosti* daily yesterday cited Gen. Momir Talic, a Bosnian Serb corps commander, as warning the Moslems to stop their offensives or face a counterattack.

On Monday, Bosnian military chief Gen. Rasim Delic said, "The time of our defensive tactics is over."

N. Yemenis break through briefly near Aden

TOUR AL-BAHA FRONT, Yemen (Reuter) – Northern Yemeni troops advanced on the southern Yemeni stronghold of Aden on a new front yesterday, with their leaders proclaiming that the end of the civil war was near.

A government minister in Sana'a said a pre-dawn military thrust on the Tour al-Baha front had enabled northern forces to link up and had put the capital of the breakaway southern state within range of their artillery.

But southern military commanders said that the attack, on the day the UN Security Council was due to debate calls for a truce in the four-week civil war, had been repulsed.

"They penetrated our lines, but they have endured heavy losses and are retreating now," said Major Shakib Noman, 37, assistant to southern chief of staff Brigadier Omar al-Attas.

"We had not given this front sufficient importance," Major Muthana Askar said to explain the northern breakthrough after several days of apparent stalemate.

The northern forces thrust 100 kilometers along a flat desert road northwest of Aden but by midday when this correspondent visited the front they had been pushed back.

Sana'a Radio called on soldiers in the port city to attack the strongholds of southern leader Ali Salem Baidh, the Yemeni vice-president who on May 21 pulled out of the 1990 agreement that united traditionalist North Yemen and formerly Marxist South Yemen.

"The hour of salvation from the band of treachery, treason and machination...is drawing near," said the radio in a broadcast monitored by the British Broadcasting Corporation.

Before being turned back, the northern thrust had reached a point less than 40 kilometers by road from Aden's outskirts and directly across the desert sands from the town of Little Aden, site of the south's only oil refinery.

Tu Wen-ching of the opposition Democratic Progressive Party stands atop a table as he argues with the Nationalists' Cha Ching-chuan (r) during yesterday's National Assembly brawl. (Reuter)

Free-for-all erupts in Taiwan's National Assembly

TAIPEI, Taiwan (AP) — About 40 National Assembly deputies traded punches and kicks yesterday when the assembly began a special three-month session to discuss constitutional reforms.

Several deputies suffered scratches in the hour-long brawl, which erupted when deputies from the opposition Democratic Progressive Party protested the size of the quorum needed for daily meetings.

The governing Nationalist Party, which dominates the assembly, had announced earlier that daily meetings could be held when one-third of the 402 members were present.

Opposition member Cheng Pao-ching traded punches with Chen Yi-hsiung of the Nationalist Party as other deputies joined in the fighting.

DPP deputy Du Wen-chin, claiming he was kicked by a Nationalist, jumped on the podium, ripped out the microphones and tossed all documents on the floor.

"This Nationalist assembly should have been abolished long ago," opposition deputy Tsai Ming-hua shouted.

The violence ended when the presiding officer called a recess.

The opposition wanted the quorum set at two-thirds, and said Nationalist members wanted it set lower so they could skip much of the lengthy session.

The Nationalists have 320 deputies in the assembly, which elects the president and is empowered to amend the constitution.

The assembly is expected to approve a Nationalist proposal to hold Taiwan's first popular election for president in 1996.

The DPP supports direct presidential elections, but also wants to abolish the assembly, which did not become fully elected until 1991.

Previously, many seats had been held by members chosen in China before the Nationalists fled to Taiwan in 1949 after losing a civil war to the Communists on the mainland.

Mubarak tells non-aligned to change or die

CAIRO (Reuter) – Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak opened a non-aligned foreign ministers meeting yesterday, telling the movement it had to change or face irrelevance in the post-Cold War world.

In a keynote address, Mubarak said the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM), founded in 1961 as a haven for countries that wanted to avoid being dragged into the East-West stand-off, had to "face new realities... in this changing world".

"If we don't act with open minds and great adaptability, we will be justifying the argument that the movement has become empty of content, an image without reality," he said.

"Rigidity is the road to destruction," Mubarak declared. "Renewal and development are... the only way towards survival and progress."

In one sign of changed times, South Africa was admitted as a full member of the NAM following its transition to majority rule after all-party elections in April.

Delegates clapped as South African Foreign Minister Alfred Nzo was led to a seat in the conference hall. The move raised the movement's membership to 109.

The NAM has been trying to modernize itself since the Cold War, swapping the angry rhetoric of the past for phrases about partnership and cooperation with the rich North.

Kuwait: Russia not wavering on Iraq sanctions

MOSCOW (Reuter) - Russia is suffering financially as a result of UN sanctions against Iraq but is not pressing other Security Council members to have them lifted, senior Kuwaiti officials said yesterday.

Parliament speaker Ahmad al-Saadoun, leading a delegation that visited the United States, Canada and Russia, said Moscow was insisting that Baghdad comply with all UN resolutions.

"We have not seen any differences with regard to the necessity of Iraq complying with all the resolutions. Otherwise the sanctions will continue," al-Saadoun said.

"I have never seen any pressure on the side of Russia or other countries that sanctions have to be lifted before compliance."

Moscow, a former Iraqi ally and arms supplier, has backed the United Nations in maintaining the sanctions despite opposition from hardline communists and nationalists and big losses resulting from Baghdad's failure to repay debts.

Russian officials estimate the debts at more than $6 billion. Iraq will be unable to repay until the Gulf War sanctions are lifted and it is allowed to reenter the world oil market.

Former Kuwaiti oil minister Ali-Ahmed al-Baghli said the three-nation tour had shown unanimous backing for maintaining sanctions until U.N. demands were met.

"Russia has the same position as other countries. They said that although they were affected by the sanctions...they would maintain their position no matter the sacrifice," he said.

Al-Saadoun said Iraq, which has been campaigning for an early end to sanctions, must recognise Kuwait's sovereignty and territorial integrity and release more than 600 Kuwaiti and other prisoners whom he said were being held in Iraq.

He said the two main questions were "detainees and demarcation of borders". Iraq, which wants recognition of its efforts to comply with a U.N. disarmament order, denies it is holding Kuwaiti prisoners.

Russia, China and France have indicated they would like some recognition of Iraqi progress.

China's real police battle imposters

BEIJING (AP) – China's real police are trying to track down thousands of con artists who dress as police and even drive police cars to commit crimes, an official newspaper said yesterday.

Criminals posing as police have engaged in smuggling, exacting road tolls, hijacking cars and other kinds of fraud in recent years, reports in the state media say.

China's Public Security Ministry has closed down 96 factories and 2,200 shops that illegally made or sold fake police uniforms and insignia, the *China Daily* said.

Police also have seized 58,000 fake police uniforms, 7,230 hats, 6,500 insignia and 30,000 uniform markings, it said. The report did not mention whether any impersonators have been arrested yet.

The Story of the Israel Air Force

Daring. Sensational. Professional – the Israeli Air Force. This fascinating video tells its story from 1948, when it came into being, till today. The Sinai Campaign, the Six Day War, Yom Kippur War, Lebanon, Entebbe, the raid on the Iraqi atomic reactor, the Lavi project, pilotless aircraft – they are all vividly depicted, along with detailed explanations of the different types of aircraft, weaponry and pilot-training, which together form the incredible I.A.F. machine.

Running time – 60 minutes
Suggested Price: $29.95 **JP Special: NIS 59.00**

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HOW TO TAKE A CHANCE

This is how you fill in a Chance card - Mifal Hapayis' new, daily game:

1. Choose the Chance you want - Chance 1, Chance 2, Chance 3, Chance 4, or Rav Chance, and mark the appropriate column.

אופן ההשתתפות

צ'ANCE 4	צ'ANCE 3	צ'ANCE 2	צ'ANCE 1	צ'ANCE 11
▭	▭	▭	▭	▭

2. Depending on which Chance you have chosen, you guess cards and mark them - one mark in each row. (For example, if you choose Chance 1, you mark one card in one of the four rows.) Remember, in no case do you mark more than four cards).

♠	7	8	9	10	J	Q	K	A	♠
♥	7	8	9	10	J	Q	K	A	♥
♦	7	8	9	10	J	Q	K	A	♦
♣	7	8	9	10	J	Q	K	A	♣

Rav Chance - Guess four cards and mark them - one mark in each of four rows.
★ If you guess four right - you win 1,000 times your stake.
★ If you guess three right - you win 30 times your stake.
★ If you guess two right - you win twice your stake.

Chance 4 - Guess four cards and mark them - one mark in each of four rows.
If you guess four right - you win 2,000 times your stake.
If you don't guess four right - take another Chance.

Chance 3 - Guess three cards and mark them - one mark in each of three rows.
If you guess three right - you win 300 times your stake
If you don't guess three right - take another Chance.

Chance 2 - Guess two cards and mark them - one mark in each of two rows.
If you guess two right - you win 30 times your stake.
If you don't guess two right - take another Chance.

Chance 1 - Guess one card and mark it - one mark in one row
If your guess comes up - you win 4 times your stake.
If you don't guess right - take another Chance.

3. Decide your stake - you have 7 possibilities.

מחיר ההשתתפות במשחק

2	5	10	30	50	100	200
▭ שח	▭ שח	▭ שח	▭ שח	▭ שח	▭ שח	▭ שח

TAKE A CHANCE

Mifal Hapayis' New Game
New draw every day

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Ben-Yair's record

WHEN Attorney-General Michael Ben-Yair was appointed last fall, ministers officials reacted indignantly to media speculation that he had been chosen to help advance the government's political agenda. The primary suspicion was that he intended to bury the criminal case against former interior minister Aryeh Deri.

Unfortunately, Ben-Yair soon lent credence to these suspicions by announcing that while Deri should be indicted for illegal transfers of funds when he was minister, the government would not present the charge sheet until Deri's first trial, slated to begin next month, is concluded. Given the ponderous pace of the Israeli justice system, this could well take years.

Ben-Yair said the delay was needed to allow Deri to concentrate on the current trial. But the press may be forgiven for suspecting that its real aim was to ease the government's coalition negotiations with Shas.

Public unease regarding the attorney-general grew when he declared the Council of Settlements a seditious body. He had to reverse himself within days. Then, in the wake of the Hebron massacre he launched a campaign against right-wing extremists which prompted the Association for Civil Rights in Israel to take the unusual step of sending a letter of protest over a Kach activist's administrative detention.

Even more worrisome was Ben-Yair's defense of the decision to implement the detentions by military order rather than under Israeli law, which requires the detainees to be taken before a judge. By choosing to live in Judea, Samaria and Gaza, Ben-Yair said, Jewish settlers had forfeited the basic judicial rights given other Israeli citizens, since Israeli law does not apply in the territories.

Most recently, Ben-Yair has taken the ill-conceived step of picking a public fight with perhaps the country's most respected personality: State Comptroller Miriam Ben-Porat. In an apparent attempt to defend the government against Ben-Porat's scathing recent report, he accused her of overdramatizing it. In fact, he charged, the report had so little meat only two items in it were worthy of possible criminal investigation – a charge which Ben-Porat disproved the next day by asking him to investigate at least two additional matters.

It would be comforting to believe that the problem is personal rather than institutional – that the cabinet simply made an unfortunate choice of attorney-general this time around.

But the root of the problem lies in the way the attorney-general is chosen. He is appointed by the cabinet at the recommendation of the prime minister and the justice minister, and he serves at the cabinet's pleasure, rather than for a fixed term. Under these circumstances, it is hardly surprising that pressure to toady to the government is often irresistible.

Recently, MK Ra'anan Cohen (Labor) submitted a bill to change this system. Cohen would have the attorney-general elected by the Knesset in secret ballot, like the president and the state comptroller, for a maximum of two consecutive five-year terms. Only the Knesset would have the power to remove him from his post.

This arrangement would be an improvement. Despite its highly politicized nature, the Knesset has a surprisingly good record for choosing presidents and state comptrollers who are widely respected by the general public, and who think and act independently. Limiting the attorney-general to one term, to avoid any incentive for currying favor in the hope of reappointment, might be an even greater improvement.

Unfortunately, the ministerial committee on legislation has decided to oppose the bill, saying it didn't like the technical arrangements Cohen proposed.

There is nothing wrong with proposing alternative arrangements, but under no circumstances should the present system be allowed to continue.

Democracies thrive only as long as there is respect for the rule of law. Such respect will not last long if those entrusted with guarding the law are perceived as bending it for political ends.

Desecrating Yad Vashem

IF there is one institution in this contentious country on which there is a solid, unshakeable national consensus, it is Yad Vashem. The memorial/museum of the Holocaust is more than a national shrine. It is a repository of the nation's collective memory; a reminder of the commonality of Jewish destiny.

That is why strife, protests and demonstrations do not belong in Yad Vashem. The place is hallowed ground in the most meaningful sense of the word. To bring controversy into it, let alone rowdiness and violence, is to insult Israel and the Jewish people.

Unfortunately, there are those who place their own political-religious agenda above Yad Vashem's standing and purpose. On Sunday, a dozen such thoughtless, rude people disrupted a dignified commemoration ceremony held by 150 Jewish homosexuals and lesbians at Yad Vashem's Hall of Remembrance. The prayer meeting was held to pay tribute to "our lesbian sisters and gay brothers" who were slaughtered in the Holocaust. Only the bigoted, intolerant and disturbed can find fault in such a ceremony, and only the irresponsible and fanatic can precipitate a violent fracas to disrupt it.

One of the gay participants expressed anger at *The Jerusalem Post* for publishing an offensive, virulent advertisement against homosexuals, signed by a group of rabbis. His anger is understandable. But even targets of bigotry must remember that freedom of expression is not an abstract concept. It means living up to Voltaire's injunction to defend the right of the most noxious opinions to be published. Sadly, the sponsors of the advertisement do not seem to believe in granting others the freedom of expression they themselves enjoy.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

AMERICAN JEWISH POLLS

Sir, – The latest poll claiming that 88 percent of American Jews support "the peace process" was an exercise in deception, using flawed questions to obtain results that suited the political preferences of the poll's left-wing sponsor.

The poll was sponsored by the Israel Policy Forum, headed by Jonathan Jacoby, a veteran left-wing activist. Back in 1980, before the PLO was even pretending to be moderate, Jacoby signed an ad in *The New York Times* calling for "national self-determination for the Palestinian people." During the Lebanon war, he signed another *Times* ad accusing Israel of "state terrorism." More recently, Jacoby served a president of Americans For Peace Now. When he became head of the Israel Policy Forum last year, one of the first things Jacoby did was to sponsor a poll which purported to show that 87 percent of American Jews supported the Israel-PLO agreement. A sample of Jacoby's questions: "As you may be aware, Israel agreed to recognize the PLO as the official representative of the Palestinian people after the PLO renounced terrorism, removed the clauses from its charter which called for the destruction of Israel, and formally recognized Israel's right to exist. Do you approve or disapprove of the Israeli government's decision to recognize the PLO as the official representative of the Palestinian people?" Not surprisingly, 82 percent answered "yes" – based in part on the erroneous belief that the Covenant has been changed. (The Anti-Defamation League, which was reported to have been the co-sponsor, dissociated itself from the poll.)

In the latest poll, taken in mid-May, Jacoby tried a different approach. His sample was heavily weighted to people with few links to the Jewish community and therefore more likely to give dovish answers – 65 percent said they were not members of any Jewish organization and 63 percent did not consider themselves to be Zionists. These people were then asked vague questions about whether or not they support "the peace process" – an elastic term which can mean many things. Moreover, not many people are inclined to say they are against a "peace process" since it makes it sound as if they are against peace. Jacoby then trumpeted his findings as "proof" that most US Jews favor Rabin's policies.

In years gone by, others on the Jewish left have used similarly slippery polling tactics. But last year's AJCommittee poll got more "hawkish" results when its questions were worded in a specific, realistic way. Thus 90 percent of the respondents favored the "peace plan," but when asked if they supported extending PLO self-rule to "other areas in the West Bank at a later stage" – which is at the heart of the Rabin plan – only 43 percent were in favor.

When the pollsters ask questions that are specific, realistic and non-biased, American Jewish opinion is clearly on the right of the political spectrum. It is only when the likes of Jonathan Jacoby and the Israel Policy Forum utilize vague or misleading questions that they are able to falsely claim that American Jewry is dovish.

HERBERT ZWEIBON
Chairman,
Americans For a Safe Israel
New York.

"ON CAMERA"

Sir, – Since making aliya from England last year, I have been regular reader of David Brauner's *On Camera*.

Brauner recently visited my home to examine my camera collection. The resultant interview appeared in *On Camera* on May 15 and I have been amazed at the interest shown with many calls, via Mr. Brauner, from interested readers who have "an old camera" that they want to know more about, from people who wish to see the collection or offer to sell me pieces of equipment that have been in cupboards for many years.

All this indicates tremendous appreciation by your readers of the subject and shows how much David Brauner's column is enjoyed.

KENNETH BERG
Caesarea.

ACCIDENT PREVENTION

Sir, – I was amazed at Aryeh Bodenheimer's unwarranted attack on *The Jerusalem Post* regarding its coverage of death and injuries on our roads (Letters, May 17). For many months now, *The Jerusalem Post* has been a leader in creating public awareness to the issue of road safety. Apart from the campaign for slogans for car stickers only recently completed, numerous articles and opinion pieces have been published on a regular basis. As one who is constantly seeking publicity material in both the Hebrew and English press, I can only praise the *Post* for its excellent and varied coverage.

ZELDA HARRIS
Netanya.

Unmistakable messages

ARIEL SHARON

THE government used the abduction of Shi'ite leader Mustafa Dirani to try and prove that our strength is still something to write home about. Boasted the prime minister: "The IDF, which has been serving as an army of occupation, has restored its image as Israel's defending army."

It's as if the unit which struck deep in Lebanon couldn't have done it any earlier because it was busy chasing kids through the alleyways of Khan Yunis.

I wish the government would stop telling us stories. We know what the IDF should be doing.

Eliminating terrorists, for example. Isn't that the army's duty? How about some adequate guarding, some rapid reaction to prevent our soldiers being killed at their post at the Erez checkpoint? Isn't that the army's duty? And when soldiers get killed, what about some hot pursuit in order to hit the murderers?

It's very important that the IDF's image as "Israel's defense army" be preserved. So is thwarting the murder of civilians on the Beersheba-Hebron highway, and in Afula, Misgav Am, Hadera, the Katif sector and Jerusalem.

I'm still furious about an IDF patrol's demand that a Jewish truck driver return to a Palestinian checkpost from which he had driven away in fear of his life, after being fired at. Explained a senior Israeli military figure hurriedly: "The Palestinian police acted as required. We have no complaints about them."

Even if that driver was wrong, it was disgusting to send him back into the hands of PLO terrorists masquerading in police uniforms – who even earned the prime minister's praise for accuracy in aiming at the truck's tires.

The Palestinians have long known whom they are dealing with. IDF commanders have approached them, shaken their hands warmly. Sometimes they have even grasped the terrorist "general's" hand with both of theirs like supplicants, showing the orderly files of the installations they were handing over.

The government is telling Arabs: 'You have the right to kill us'

Our commanders have openly expressed their joy while handing over various newly whitewashed structures, their cracks filled, as if to say: "General, the toilets are clean and scrubbed!" But all the new owners do is glance at them contemptuously and reply, "We're in Jericho, but we're aiming at Jerusalem!"

This isn't how the army of an independent state acts. Courtesy, yes. Self-abasement, no.

THE PALESTINIANS aren't slow to grasp the hints.

When they hear that "the Palestinian police are behaving better than expected," they understand that they can continue running wild. When they hear that "our soldiers are paying the price for not uprooting settlements," it becomes clear to them that attacks on settlements and Jewish settlers will only advance their cause.

Before two murdered soldiers are even buried, an Israeli spokesman tells the world media: "We understand the Palestinians' difficulties, but if this continues and the worst happens, we shall be forced to react." All the Palestinians have to do is try and estimate what that "worst" might be.

There is to be no retaliation for killing two soldiers. Would the prime minister think three soldiers was overdoing it? What about five, or 10? Not to mention the settlers, whose blood the government has long held cheap.

I am particularly apprehensive about the prime minister's statement that "as long as the occupation exists and Palestinian resistance to our rule continues, we shall pay for it in blood."

This is like telling the Palestinians in Jerusalem and Judea, Samaria and Gaza: "Carry on killing. It's your right, and our fault. After all, we are ruling you, against your will, in Jerusalem." And the same goes for Israeli Arabs, whose leaders visit Gaza and recommend continued struggle until Jerusalem becomes the capital of Palestine.

The premier is, in effect, telling Israel's Arabs: "You too have the right to kill us, since we are ruling you, and you are another people." What a frightful distortion.

Palestinian terrorists slaughtered hundreds of Israeli civilians – men, women and children – before we liberated Judea, Samaria and the Gaza Strip.

So what is the prime minister talking about? What kind of government is this? Who is it walking arm-in-arm with, and who is it working against?

The writer, a Likud MK, is a former minister of defense.

For pay, they'll go away

KHALIL JAHSHAN
WILLIAM QUANDT
JEROME M. SEGAL

THE issue of settlers and settlements in the West Bank and Gaza cannot go long ignored. If mishandled, the fate of the settlers will undermine the prospects for later stages of Israeli-Palestinian negotiations.

Ironically, the $10 billion US loan-guarantee program – just two years ago the single most contentious issue in US-Israeli relations – could serve as a vehicle of conciliation and peacemaking.

Prime Minister Rabin has courageously said that peace is more important than settlements. So far, he has given no indication of how, or under what conditions, settlements might be removed. But Israel has the capacity on its own to adopt non-coercive policies that could at least reduce the magnitude of the settler population, leaving until later negotiations the precise details of how settlements will be dealt with in a final peace agreement.

Since actual immigration from the former USSR – the original justification for the loan guarantees – has turned out to be less than anticipated, those funds could facilitate emigration from the territories by financing housing within pre-1967 Israel for tens of thousands of returning Israeli settlers.

Here's how such a program might work:

- Relocation assistance would be made available to families that agree to leave apartments and homes in the territories.
- These properties would become the property of the Israeli government and might at some later date be transferred to Palestinians, within the context of final status negotiations.
- The amount of assistance provided would decline over time. In the first year, $100,000 per family might be made available. This could be reduced in $20,000 increments each year, so that settlers waiting until the fifth year would receive only limited compensation. In short, those who leave early will be rewarded.

There are now approximately 25,000 Israeli families living in the territories. If, in each of the next five years, 4,000 families took advantage of the program, the cost would be just over $1 billion dollars, a limited part of the total $10 billion in loan guarantees.

Logic dictates a government-assisted exodus of settlers now

A PROGRAM of this sort would not draw the most ideological of the settlers from the territories, and smaller groups of extremists committed to violence would also not be expected to leave in response to financial incentives. But polls show that even now, more than 30 percent of the settlers are ready to leave if compensation is provided. And this number will grow once the process is started.

The program could be implemented unilaterally by the Israeli government. No negotiations with the Palestinians are required, and no coercion would be involved. Moreover, it would still leave open the future of the settlements themselves and of those settlers who remain.

By agreement, those issues are to be dealt with in the final-status negotiations, which, according to the Declaration of Principles, are to "commence as soon as possible, but not later than the beginning of the third year of the interim period."

The advantages of assisting the settlers to leave now are compelling.

By reducing the size of the settler population, the problem of dealing with settlements in the final status negotiations will be significantly easier, both to negotiate and to implement. Indeed, if this is not done, the settlement question may prove "a deal breaker" in the final status talks.

A government-assisted exodus of settlers would also send the clearest possible signal to the Palestinians that the Israel is serious about ultimately withdrawing from the West Bank. This would greatly strengthen the position of Palestinian moderates.

Moreover, a major return of settlers from the territories would help limit violence in coming years. With respect to extremists on the Israeli side, it would demonstrate that the effort to create permanent facts on the ground has failed, and that Israelis were leaving the territories regardless of attempts by extremists to disrupt negotiations.

An exodus of settlers from the territories would also refute the claim of Palestinian extremists that the only way to end the occupation is to mount violent attacks on Israelis.

The precedent of ample compensation paid to settlers who left the Sinai when peace was achieved with Egypt has created an expectation of compensation among settlers in the West Bank and Gaza. They will not leave without it. The real choice is whether the process begins now, or in five years. Logic says do it now.

Khalil Jahshan is executive director of the National Association of Arab Americans. William Quandt is a senior fellow at the Brookings Institution. Jerome Segal, president of the Jewish Peace Lobby, is a research scholar at the University of Maryland.
(Washington Post)

United front

IRVING SCHIFFMAN

ISRAEL is trying to trim its domestic industries, to make them leaner and meaner so they can compete more effectively in a market-oriented global economy.

This will place added pressure on the country's capacity to deal with its environmental problems.

Israel is still trying to come to grips with years of environmental neglect, which has led to a deterioration in air quality, the accumulation of toxic waste, the degradation of streams and aquifers and damage to landscapes and natural ecosystems.

Significantly, the country's economic restructuring is taking place at the same time as another kind of restructuring – people's relationship to the environment.

Environmental awareness among Israelis is growing, evidenced in such actions as opposition to the Voice of America transmitters in the Arava and to the hydroelectric plant on the Jordan River. The number of environmental interest groups has also increased.

Based on the experience of other democracies, an upsurge in environmental awareness and organization can be expected to result in increased advocacy for environmental regulations, closer public scrutiny of planning and building, and more frequent use of the courts to establish and enforce environmental rights. There will also be demands for a more open, participatory and accountable decision-making process.

Today's lesson, gentlemen, is corporate care for our environment

The looming struggle between economic and environmental forces threatens to impose significant costs upon the business sector – and the country – in terms of delay, additional regulations, expensive lawsuits, damage liability, penalty fees and negative publicity. And the result may be only marginal improvements to the environment.

To prevent or at least mitigate the coming conflict, it is imperative that the corporate sector accept that it has a social responsibility to the public. It must respond to the new environmental consciousness within the country by adopting internal practices and procedures which lessen the adverse impacts its operations have on the environment.

CORPORATE environmentalism means going beyond mere compliance with regulations and integrating environmental considerations into all business decisions. It means minimizing environmental impacts throughout the entire production cycle – from the extraction of resources through production, use and final disposal.

It means carrying out research and development on environmentally safe activities, while abandoning environmentally unsafe endeavors. And it means educating employees to recognize environmental problems and deal with them in an integrated and comprehensive fashion.

The need for a policy of environmental responsiveness is not limited to the private sector.

Government-owned corporations compete with private firms in their attempt to maximize growth and profits, and there is little evidence of their subscribing to more socially oriented objectives, such as protecting public health.

Government-owned power plants, chemical companies and refineries, for example, have a long history of resisting efforts to reduce the pollution they create.

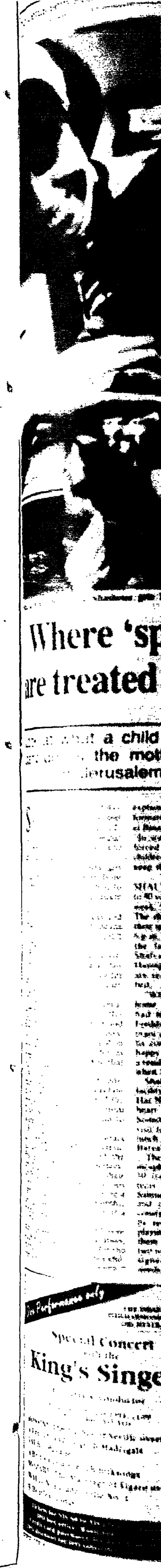
What kind of message is the government sending about the values people should pursue in their private lives, when its own industries seek to avoid compliance with environmental laws?

Environmental education is no less important for corporate leaders than it is for ordinary citizens.

In the US, Western Europe and Japan, industry has shown how voluntary changes in production processes, location and design decisions can work to improve the environment, while generating major cost savings to the firm and improving the company's reputation.

It's time for the private and governmental business sectors in Israel to expand their decision-making criteria and recognize that their growth and prosperity is dependent upon a healthy society, one in which maintaining environmental quality is a shared responsibility.

The writer is a professor of political science at California State University and a visiting professor at the School for Overseas Students, Hebrew University.



Shalva volunteer Joyce Shashoua gets Sara Batya Myer ready for her birthday party. (S. Uziely)

Where 'special' children are treated like anyone else

Look at what a child can do, not at what the child can't do, is the motto of a voluntary organization in Jerusalem, Joel Rebibo writes

SARA Batya Myer's birthday party this week wasn't that different from any other 12-year-old's. There was live music and entertainment, friends and family and treats.

And, of course, the birthday girl was decked out in her finest, from the bows in her soft brown hair to her white, lace-trimmed ankle socks.

But Sara has cerebral palsy and spastic quadraplegia, which means she can't move or talk. She can't even pick up her head.

"Why shouldn't she have a party like other children?" asks her mother, Elaine. "It's a chance for her to be with people who care about her."

The people at Shalva, the Jerusalem-based Association to Relieve the Handicapped Child and Family, agree. There, the emphasis is on what a child can do and on providing the opportunity for as normal a life as possible. And that includes birthday parties.

At this one, the feeling of "normality" and sheer delight was tangible, despite the condition of the participants, which ranged from Down's Syndrome and autism to severe retardation.

Shalva was started four years ago by Malky and Kalman Samuels, who yesterday received the President's Award for Volunteerism. Their experience with their son Yosef, now 17, who lost his sight and hearing after receiving a DPT vaccination at 11 months, sensitized them to the needs of a handicapped child's family.

"These children demand constant attention and stimulation, which makes it impossible for the mother to attend to the other children's needs and to the home," explains Kalman, manager of information systems at the US-Israel Binational Science Foundation. "In some cases, the families are forced to institutionalize these children. We're trying to help keep them at home."

SHALVA, which currently caters to 80 youngsters, is open six days a week, Shabbat through Thursday. The children arrive directly from their special schools and stay until 6 p.m. or even later, according to the family's needs. Then the Shalva van runs them home. Having had their supper, they are ready for a bath, story and bed.

"When our son Yonatan comes home, he's very calm because he's had hours of attention," says Freddy Lemberger. Yonatan has brain damage caused by meningitis contracted as a baby. "He's happy when he's at Shalva, and as a result, he's at maximum capacity when he comes home."

Shalva is a happy place. The facility, a cottage in the capital's Har Nof quarter, is located in the heart of a haredi neighborhood. Something is always happening: a visit to the circus, take-out pizza lunch, birthday parties like Sara Batya's.

The people who create the atmosphere at Shalva are a team of 10 trained staff and 100 volunteers, led by Malky and Kalman Samuels. They provide physical and occupational therapy, plus constant one-on-one stimulation by reading the children stories, playing, dancing and singing with them. Recently, Shalva purchased two touch-sensitive computers designed with special-education needs in mind.

With children who have CP, Down's Syndrome or mental retardation, progress is gradual. In the most difficult cases, staff and volunteers can spend months trying to elicit a blink or a smile. Though the casual observer may not detect a response, the Shalva staff sees the people behind the disabilities.

"Sara Batya is a bright child," says Nehama Samuels, the 18-year-old daughter of Kalman and Malky, who also volunteers at Shalva. "She has a very good memory. Also, I used to read to her a lot, and I could feel it when she liked certain books, like *Where do the butterflies go when it rains?*

"Sometimes I see her trying to talk to me," the young volunteer adds. "The muscles of her mouth start working, and it's heartbreaking to see her try and form the words. I know she has so much to say. She communicates by blinking, and with her very special smile."

Shalva's original afternoon program has expanded. It now includes an evening program for teenagers and people in their early 20s, a summer day camp and two-week sleep-away camp. There is also an overnight program with 10 beds for children whose parents need a 36-hour break.

Funds run into the hundreds of thousands of dollars a year, and are raised privately. "I don't want to ask anything from the parents," says Kalman Samuels. "They have enough demands placed on them already."

Adds his wife: "These families deserve to be helped. Because they're the ones who don't institutionalize their child."

Learning the language of friendship

Youngsters from abroad are teaching English to Arab Israelis and learning much in return, Judith Sudilovsky writes

Polly Osborn, 18, (left) teaching at the Haifa Arab Teacher Training College. Students say GAP volunteer teachers help with pronunciation and are friends from another culture. (Paul Melling)

SARAH Clark, 18, is technically supposed to be teaching English to students at the Hadji High School for Girls in Umm el-Fahm, but she's more than a teacher for the students.

"I feel as if I'm on the same level as my students. We are more like friends," said Clark, who came from Norwich, England, for six months as a GAP teaching volunteer with 17 others.

Mohammed Qinwan, 15, a ninth-grade student at Razi Junior High School in Umm el-Fahm, where some of the teenage volunteers teach, says they definitely have had an influence. He is enthusiastic about the English language and during a telephone interview he spews forth a constant and fluent stream of synonyms.

Is he reading from a dictionary? Yes, he says, he likes the dictionary.

"I think the volunteers have the capacity, the ability to help us learn, help us improve our expression," said Qinwan. "They give us the freedom to express our emotions, our traditions. I'm improving my speech. The volunteer gives me help to develop. She gives us much inducement and is very enthusiastic."

His English has improved, he said, but it had been good to begin with.

This is the second year that teenage GAP volunteers have worked as teaching assistants in English classes in Israeli Arab schools. In June, they will be finishing their volunteer assignments.

GAP, now in its 24th year, is a volunteer program for high-school graduates who want to take a year off before they start university. They go overseas and teach English, work in hospitals or do agricultural work. Some 750 volunteers are placed in 30 countries. The name GAP stands for the gap year the volunteers take before entering university.

The volunteers, who arrived in Israel in January, are teaching at the Haifa Arab Teacher Training College, and in schools in Umm el-Fahm, Sakhnin and Fassuta in Galilee, and in the Beduin villages of Aroer and Segev Shalom.

The local council is asked to provide housing, board and a bit of pocket money to the volunteers. Because in many places it is easier to find housing for young women, most of the volunteers are female.

"I like this idea of bringing students from abroad," said Ghada Abu Saleh, 20, in fluent English. A third-year student at the Haifa Arab Teacher Training College, she is from the Druse village of Majdal Shams in the Golan. "We benefit from their pronunciation. We learn many things about their culture.... And they are also our friends and it is good to have friends from other backgrounds."

Saeed Ebgaria, the counselor for four volunteers in Umm el-Fahm, said he has seen improvement in pupils' English conversation skills, but noted volunteers often run into trouble when they need to explain grammar.

"Maybe it would be better if the volunteers were two or three years older," Ebgaria said, "but we still very much want them to be here."

No studies have been done on the program's impact, but Education Ministry inspector Wajeeh Awad sees only good coming from the program. Arab students living in villages don't have the same exposure to English speakers as students in cities, he said, and having the volunteers living in the villages gives students and local teachers the chance to practice conversational English.

"The Arab students' only contact with the language outside school is through the television and that ... is only passive exposure," he said. "Now with the volunteers, they have the opportunity to use their English.... This will help them do better on the oral part of their matriculation exams."

Most of this year's GAP volunteers knew little or nothing about Israel before arriving.

Ever since Polly Osborn, 18, read Leon Uris's *Exodus* six years ago, she has wanted to visit. The Oxford resident has found that it is not quite like the kibbutz life depicted in the book.

"As a whole, I find Israel very exciting and stimulating, and the politics are very challenging. But I don't find myself pro-anything," said Osborn, who is teaching at the Haifa Arab Teacher Training College. "I'll have to come again to see the Jewish side."

"The only news I hear about is from friends in town, since we don't have a television," added Londoner Andy Ross, 18, who teaches at the Wadi Alnsoor Junior High School in Umm el-Fahm. "So we get a rather biased, one-sided view. I don't like to talk about my opinions, but it seems that, in general, the Moslems get misrepresented in the West through the media. They make all Moslems seem like fanatics. I'm trying to learn more about Islam."

The majority of the volunteers have had little opportunity to get to know Jewish Israelis, but would like to meet some.

The teaching program is coordinated by the British Council, while the British Olim Society is responsible for the volunteer programs at kibbutzim and hospitals. GAP is funded by donations; volunteers must provide some of their own funds.

"At first we were worried that the teaching volunteers wouldn't be able to do what was expected of them," said Peter Sandiford, the British Council's Israel director. "But the proof is in the pudding. All the places which had them last year asked for more volunteers this year, and we also added a few new locations."

Next year, GAP will also be sending volunteers to development towns, mainly in the South, said Malcolm Johnson, British Council educational officer. But because of the time needed to recruit and screen volunteers, they probably won't be able to provide a large number of volunteers until the following school year, he said.

Before they were sent to their assignments, the volunteers were given one week of training in teaching English as a second language and then got a two-day introduction to Israel, along with a crash course in teaching English as a second language at Beit Berl in Kfar Sava.

The teaching methods here are similar to those in England and include group work and activities instead of just frontal teaching, said Sarah Clark.

Clark and Ross share a house with two other GAP volunteers – one woman and one man – although there are some people in Umm el-Fahm who don't approve of those living arrangements.

The two women have to be more careful about how they present themselves to the community. At first, they would meet with local youths, which was not acceptable to the villagers. Now, after Ebgaria persuaded the local council not to eject them, the young women are not calling on young men. "Here in Umm el-Fahm they have to understand there are limits," Ebgaria said.

One of last year's volunteers warned in a letter to Helen Harris not to teach in Segev Shalom if she was very feminist, but the 19-year-old from Worcestershire said she doesn't feel "too constricted."

She and fellow volunteer Irene Lambeth, 19, of Hampshire, live with a Beduin family. While the Beduin women are not free to go out in the evening or to sit with men, the community doesn't expect them, as Western women, to behave the same way, said Harris.

They have, however, felt frustrated in their role as teachers because of the low level of English knowledge in the schools, said Harris. She would have liked to receive more information about the Beduin before coming so she would have known what to expect, she said.

"They are given a tremendous amount of information on what to wear and how to behave – the British Council puts out a 20-page pamphlet – but still they are surprised when they come here," replied Sandiford. "After all, they are 18 years old and some have never been outside Britain. Going to live in a Beduin village is quite a culture shock."

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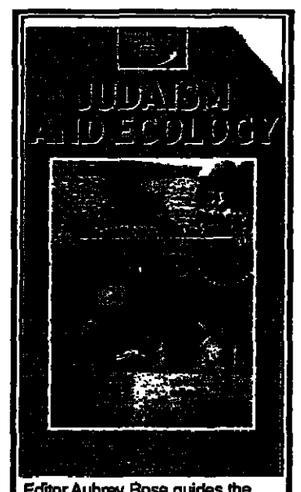

Editor Aubrey Rose guides the reader with humor, wisdom and enthusiasm through the age old ecological teachings of the Jewish faith; its ceremonies, law, and resources for developing a right attitude to creation; the contribution of modern Israel to the world's environment; and practical action by Jews worldwide. Contributors include the JP's Liat Collins and Rabbi Shlomo Riskin. Foreword by Rabbi Jonathan Sacks. Softcover, 128 pp. Cassell.
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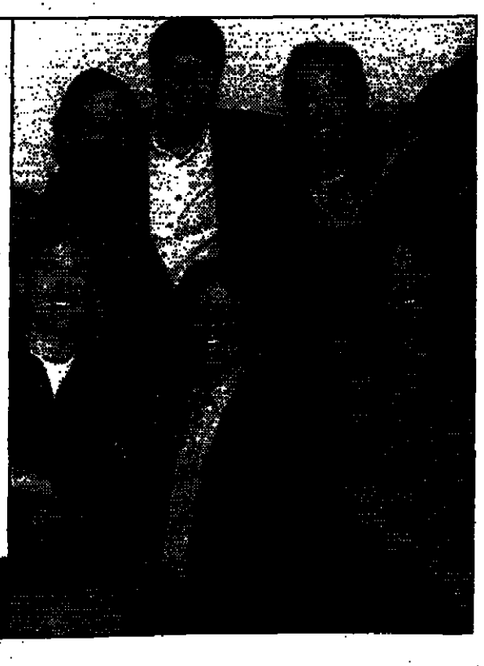

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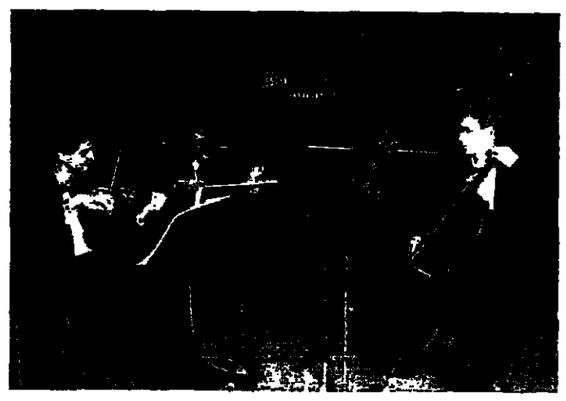

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Nonaligned ministers look to the West

PATRICK WORSNIP
CAIRO

NONALIGNED foreign ministers are trying to shift from confrontation to partnership with the West and to find ways to halt conflicts in Bosnia, Yemen and Rwanda.

The four-day meeting which opened in Egypt yesterday is the first major gathering of the 108-member movement since a 1992 summit in Jakarta.

Since then the Cold War, which first gave rise to the movement in the 1960s, has faded further, but a rash of bitter local conflicts has afflicted developing countries just as they are trying to focus on economic growth.

"The main sufferers from the uncertain transition in international relations remained the developing nations," says the draft of a declaration due to be adopted by the ministers.

With the governments of Islamic countries, who account for almost half of the movement's members, under pressure at home to take action to help Bosnia's Moslems, the draft calls for much tougher UN measures to stop the fighting there.

The draft urges the Security Council to "enforce" a cease-fire throughout Bosnia, calls for the mandate of the UN force there to be beefed up and denounces the arms embargo on Bosnia.

The Bosnian question dominated the Jakarta summit, but diplomats said that since Yugoslavia – a founder member of the Nonaligned Movement (NAM) – had not been invited to the Cairo meeting, it could prove less controversial this time.

The declaration calls for immediate cease-fires in the two most violent wars in the nonaligned area, in Yemen and Rwanda.

The section on Yemen gives no support to the breakaway just over a week ago of the southern part of the state, and officials said the south – a separate country until Yemeni unity in 1990 – would not be represented at the meeting.

The NAM, facing charges that it has lost its point now that there are no longer East and West camps, has tried to recast itself as a Third World pressure group fighting for a better political and economic deal from the big powers.

References to imperialism and colonialism, once the stock-in-trade of nonaligned statements, have been purged from the draft before ministers in Cairo.

Instead it talks about cooperation, partnership and "shared responsibility" with the wealthy nations, despite protests about unequal treatment at the UN and in trade and finance.

Calls for expansion of the Security Council to strengthen nonaligned representation are expected to be a major topic.

Diplomats said that despite its reputation as a talking shop, the NAM had solid achievements to its credit that were reflected in the recent move to majority rule in South Africa and the Israel-Palestinian accord on Gaza and Jericho.

The writer is chief diplomatic correspondent of Reuters.

A Dinka woman sits with her malnourished children in Kongor, southern Sudan. (AP)

No end in sight for Sudan's 12-year-old civil war

WILLIAM C. MANN
CAIRO

AFRICA'S deadliest civil war is stumbling into its 12th year, with no end in sight.

Most of the more than 1.5 million who have perished in Sudan have died of starvation in a nation that once had the potential of being the continent's breadbasket.

Relief groups warn that at least another 500,000 – probably more – are in imminent danger of dying in southern Sudan, the battlefield between government troops and the rebel Sudan People's Liberation Army.

Doctors Without Borders says famine will strike unless food aid reaches southern Sudan in the next two or three weeks, when the rainy season starts in earnest.

The UN says 2 million of Sudan's 26 million people need food or farming tools. Amnesty International says 3 million are malnourished in one of northeast Africa's most fertile regions.

Relief groups are calling for $5 million in international aid to deliver food aid stuck in warehouses in Kenya because of a lack of cargo planes and impassable roads into the Horn of Africa nation.

Already, the number of dead and dying eclipse any other African crisis of recent decades, outstripping the 200,000 massacred in Rwanda since April, or the million who died in Biafra in the 1960s.

Both sides have used food as a weapon in Sudan's sordid war. Amnesty International and other human rights groups accuse both sides of massacres, mass expulsions and setting whole villages afire.

The war started in May 1983, when US-trained Col. John Garang led a mutiny at the army garrison at Bor, his southern Sudan hometown, and rekindled fighting between north and the south.

ELEVEN YEARS later, there's no end in sight, despite efforts by African leaders and the US. Washington's latest move was to appoint an emissary to work with Kenya and Sudan's other East African neighbors to negotiate a cease-fire and eventually full peace.

But with a militantly fundamentalist Moslem government in Khartoum growing increasingly anti-Western over the last five years, there's little prospect of real peace.

Seven rounds of peace talks between the government and the Christian and animist rebels have failed, and international attention is diverted to Bosnia, Rwanda and elsewhere.

The last negotiations, in mid-May in Nairobi, Kenya, ended with nothing more than a nonbinding declaration of principles.

The stakes are high.

A negotiated peace would likely include significant autonomy for the south under Garang's Sudan People's Liberation Army or a splinter group.

A victory by the government on the battlefield – where it has made major gains in recent months – would put a regime accused by the West of exporting Islamic fanaticism on the doorstep of largely non-Moslem central Africa.

"Is there anyone willing to see the SPLA defeated?" asked Peter Woodward, a Sudan expert at England's Reading University.

In recent months, Sudan has accused the US, other Western countries and Israel of arming the rebels, who lost their last supplier in 1991 with the fall of the Marxist regime in neighboring Ethiopia.

Everybody denies it, but Sudan-watchers say there's something to the concept of Western support.

In March, an Israeli cargo plane loaded with 23 tons of arms was reported to have landed at Uganda's Entebbe airport. Sudan said the weapons made their way into the Sudanese bush for the rebels.

Reading University's Woodward said he would add some Arab regimes to Sudanese leader Lt. Gen. Omar Hassan el-Bashir's list of alleged rebel supporters.

"I don't think they particularly want to see Sudan split," he said. "They would settle for confederation. What they really don't want to see is victory for the National Islamic Front," the ideological guide of Bashir's government.

In April, the rebels declared a breakaway state, "New Sudan." It was the first time since the war started that Garang had spelled out his goal was the division of Sudan, the largest country in Africa.

It's still unclear how serious he is. The Sudanese government says it's just a negotiating ploy. (AP)

Iraqi oil is thicker than resolutions

BAGHDAD (Reuter) – Iraq hopes Western firms vying for lucrative deals will eventually force their countries to have a crippling oil embargo eased or lifted, diplomats say.

"There are Germans, Americans, Britons, French, Italians and Japanese here, all with an eye on Iraqi crude and markets," said a Western diplomat.

Businessmen visiting Baghdad avoid the foreign press, but their presence is no secret. They travel in black limousines and their destination is generally the oil ministry.

Iraqi crude oil exports have been banned under an embargo imposed by the UN Security Council shortly after Iraqi troops invaded Kuwait in August 1990.

The Security Council voted this month not to consider easing sanctions until Iraq meets all requirements to scrap its weapons of mass destruction, but it was split on interpretation of the 1991 Gulf War cease-fire resolution. The US was at odds with some other members in demanding that Iraq comply with a host of other conditions.

The ruling Ba'ath party newspaper *Al-Thawra* said afterwards Iraq had almost given up hope that the council would ever consider its case favorably.

"Iraq is knocking on all doors... luring Western firms for business. The firms have influence," the diplomat said.

Another diplomat said that even now Western firms, particularly in France and Germany, are putting heavy pressure on their governments to let Iraqi crude flow again.

"Iraq is banking on this. It is one way, and a clever one, to beat the sanctions," he said.

Iraq has deals, to be implemented once the embargo is lifted, with giant French oil companies Elf and Total to develop the giant southern fields of Majnoon and Nahr Omar.

An Iraqi oil delegation will visit Italy and Ukraine later this month for talks on oil cooperation, according to the *Middle East Economic Survey*.

"The temptation to lift the sanctions is there. Business speaks louder than resolutions," the diplomat said.

Iraq, which produced 3.2 million barrels per day (bpd) of crude oil before the embargo, announced the inauguration of a field in the northern province of Saladdin last month and said initial production estimates were 70,000 bpd.

"I know it is much higher than that, and a Western company is approaching for a concession," one diplomat said. "Believe me, the first companies to operate here will be American."

Oil sources in Baghdad say OPEC's smaller members need Iraq's return to offset Saudi Arabia's influence within the producer group.

E
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ON THE
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DAVID BAR-ILLAN
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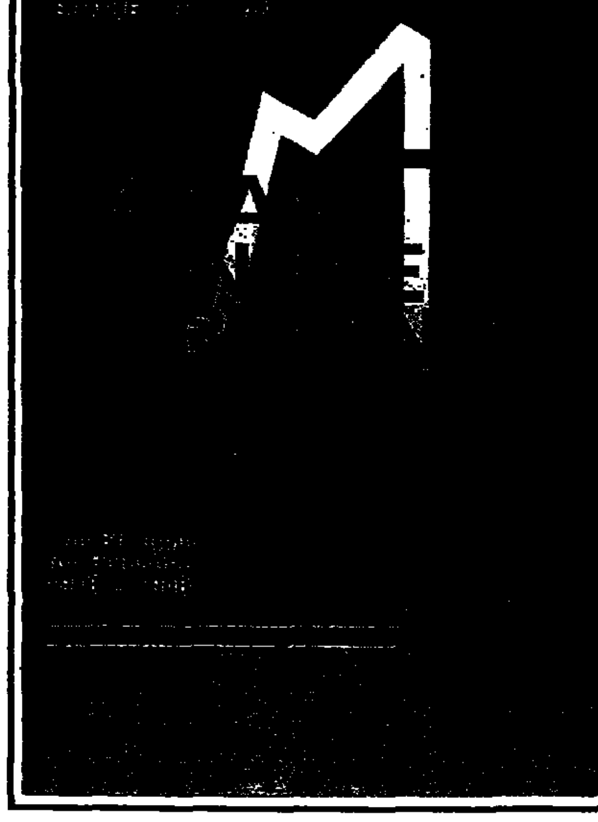

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Refuge but no food in southern Sudan

MOHAMED OSMAN
JUBA

SO many people have fled to Juba to escape Sudan's civil war that they're growing food in the cemeteries where war victims are buried.

In peacetime, Juba was a pleasant, prosperous town, population 100,000. Five times that many live here now, mostly refugees scrabbling for food to stay alive.

Henry Muni, a former laboratory technician, trekked 70 km. to the southern town in 1989 with his wife, four children and 3,000 others from Terkeka, which had fallen to the rebel Sudan People's Liberation Army.

Muni's family found the security they sought in Juba, 1,180 km. south of Khartoum. But, like half the six million people in southern Sudan, they're suffering from an acute food shortage.

Muni wants peace so he can take his family home and grow their own food.

"I don't want to see my children grow up in this atmosphere of civil war," Muni said. "Poor education. Poor services. Poor nutrition."

Many of the refugees fleeing more than 11 years of fighting between the rebels and government troops live in mud-walled houses, covered by green canvas left behind by relief agencies long ago. The houses are everywhere, nestled among government buildings, bureaucrats' houses, mosques and churches built in happier times.

Muni was given land and seed through a government program to help the displaced grow their food, but he says he needs at least 1.6 hectares.

Paulino Lako Kidiya, Juba's state agriculture minister, says there isn't enough land to go around. Already he's had to allocate cemetery plots for farming.

Although the government claims the 100 km. around Juba are secure, only expensive air transport can supply its markets, because rebels still control much of the countryside.

The market has mangoes, pawpaws, pineapples and bananas – but for a price.

A sack of sorghum, the national staple, can cost 25,000 Sudanese pounds ($71 at the official rate), almost double a month's salary for a member of Sudan's parliament. In central Sudan, north of the war zone, that same sack sells for 5,000 pounds ($14) or less.

The Sudan People's Liberation Army began the war in May 1983 to press for a better political and economic deal for the south. The war has become Africa's deadliest, claiming over 1.5 million victims, with no end in sight.

"Peace for me is like blood to the heart," Muni said. "Without peace, we are done with." (AP)

Sanaa fears foreign help for secessionists

JONATHAN WRIGHT
SANAA

THE Yemeni government in the north, fighting southern secessionists, is looking over its shoulder for what it fears most: foreign intervention in the form of money, weapons or support for Aden.

Ministers say foreigners are already intervening indirectly and President Ali Abdullah Saleh is doing his utmost through diplomatic contacts to stop the practice from spreading.

Planning Minister Abdul-Karim al-Iryani, for example, said that Tupolev planes from Eastern Europe were landing at al-Rayan in the Aden-controlled east with shipments of two tanks each.

A warship carrying artillery pieces and other military equipment for the southerners was anchored off the port of Mukalla, the capital of Hadramawt province where southern leader and former vice president Ali Salem al-Beidh has been based for the past few days, Planning Minister Iryani added.

But the country the northern government suspects most is neighboring Saudi Arabia, which has a long tradition of financing Yemeni tribes that cause trouble for the rulers in Sanaa.

Saleh and his ministers have not yet accused the Saudis of taking sides in the conflict, but government officials say they have every expectation that the Saudis will eventually do so.

"The Saudis want a weak neighbor just like any other government anywhere in the world," one senior official said. "But whatever Saudi Arabia can achieve will be through Yemenis. They can use Yemenis to create instability."

"If Yemenis are left to their own resources, this war will end quickly and we will find our own solution. Otherwise it could go on for a long time," a colleague said.

One official said Saudi Arabia was already sending money to Beidh and his followers in the Yemen Socialist Party.

Saudi Arabia's King Fahd issued a joint statement with Crown Prince Abdullah Bin Abdul-Aziz saying that Saudi Arabia, more than any other country, had an interest in ending the war.

"When we look at the situation in Yemen, we are profoundly saddened at the deteriorating conditions. We have called on the parties in the conflict to put the interests of the Yemeni people in front of their own interests," they said in their annual address to Moslem pilgrims at this year's haj.

Iryani, who has visited Saudi Arabia at least twice since the fighting in Yemen broke out on May 4, said no Arab government was prepared to take what could be the most damaging step – recognizing the southern state which Beidh proclaimed last week.

"I personally do not expect any foreign intervention," he added, apparently referring to foreign troops joining battle.

Diplomats also dismiss the possibility that any country would see the need to send troops, which would be much too visible and difficult to justify to their own people and the world community.

Southern leader Abdel-Rahman al-Jiffri said this week he expected several Arab countries to recognize the southern state within a matter of days.

But officials in Sanaa are skeptical, arguing that meekly acknowledging the fragmentation of Yemen contradicted the Arab states' declared commitment to unity among all Arab countries.

"Accepting defeat on Yemeni unity would be a staggering psychological blow," said Education Minister Abu Bakr al-Qirbi. (Reuter)

Ancient port found near pyramids

NAZLETT EL-SESE (AP) – Construction workers digging near the Sphinx have found an ancient harbor where men and stones were ferried in to build the Great Pyramid of Cheops.

"It changes history, everything we've ever believed. It's a wonderful discovery," says Zahi Hawass, antiquities director of the pyramids area and the Sphinx.

Archeologists have long assumed that a harbor had been essential for pyramid builders to transport massive building blocks and finer stones to Giza Plateau.

Granite arrived on Nile River barges after 700-km. journeys northward from Aswan's royal quarries.

It was believed that one large harbor serviced the plateau, crowned by the three Giza pyramids and at least eight smaller pyramids.

In 1978 geologists located a possible harbor at the foot of the plateau in front of the Sphinx.

The latest discovery, made in February, indicates the three main pyramids each had a separate harbor, a big surprise for Hawass and other Egyptologists.

The large pyramids honored pharaohs Cheops, his son Chephren and grandson Mycerinus.

Egyptologists believe the pyramids were built simultaneously over a 70-year period, beginning about 2550 BCE.

Separate harbors meant work could be channeled to each pyramid, making construction far more efficient and coordinated than previously believed.

Hundreds of thousands of stones, some weighing as much as 400 tons, went into building the pyramids, the Sphinx, tombs, temples and other structures at the plateau.

The new find is a section of huge blocks that form a wall 70 m. long and three meters wide, the style "absolutely from Cheops's time," Hawass said.

Hawass believes the wall was part of a huge retaining wall that channeled Nile water into a harbor below Cheops's pyramid. From the water's edge, workers hauled the massive blocks up the plateau.

The find was made when laborers dug foundations for planned apartment buildings in the working-class neighborhood of Nazlett el-Sese, a five-minute drive from the Sphinx. Construction was stopped.

THE JERUSALEM POST

BUSINESS & FINANCE

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 1, 1994

Bezek posts rise in net profits

JUDY SIEGEL

BEZEK posted a 9.2 percent increase in net profits during the first quarter to NIS 95 million from NIS 87m. during the same quarter last year.

During the fourth quarter in 1993, the company lost NIS 13m.

Bezek's board yesterday approved the financial reports for the first quarter. The profit per share was 11 agorot, compared with a loss of two agorot during the previous quarter.

Bezek's revenues rose to NIS 1.2 billion from NIS 1.18b. Operating expenses fell to NIS 645m. from NIS 690m.

Company director-general Yitzhak Kaul said Bezek is preparing for changes due to the growing competition in telecommunications.

There are now two million phone lines in the country, and digital exchanges encompass 75 percent of the population.

Breakdowns have been reduced by 11% and public complaints by 5% during this quarter, according to the company.

Director-general Yitzhak Kaul

Meanwhile, Communications Minister Shulamit Aloni chose Ofer Weiss, an economist from her ministry, to serve on Bezek's board of directors.

VAT, Customs receipts up 10%

JOSE ROSENFELD

VAT and Customs receipts jumped 10 percent in real terms during the first third of the year to NIS 10.25 billion, reflecting a strong economy, said VAT and Customs director Aryeh Zeif yesterday.

Zeif noted that despite the elimination last year of the 2% import levy and purchase tax, as well as tariff reductions, the government collected NIS 1.25b. more than in the same period last year.

In May, the growth rate moderated somewhat to 8% from the 10% to 12% a month during the first third of the year.

Zeif said the change did not indicate a slowdown in the economy.

The business sector expressed its confidence in the economy by increasing its investment in equipment and machinery by 18%, said Zeif. Another reflection of rising investment was the significant growth in VAT refunds, he added.

Durable imports also grew an impressive 14%.

VAT receipts shot up 11%, bringing in NIS 250m. more than original estimates. Zeif emphasized that the estimates already assume NIS 300m. in additional revenues.

The Treasury said VAT and Customs receipts will total NIS 31.8b. this year. If revenues continue at the present rate, Zeif predicts they will exceed the original estimates by more than NIS 1b.

Zeif pointed to yet another sign of vigorous economic activity in the number of new businesses registering with the VAT authorities.

Every month 4,000 starting enterprises sign up with the tax authorities, while 1,000 close their accounts.

Business formation is growing 25% faster this year than last year, said Zeif. There are a total of 305,000 firms registered with the VAT authorities.

Zeif does not expect the 17% VAT tax rate to change in the foreseeable future. He said the European Union has set a VAT rate target ranging between 15% and 20%, which he thinks will translate into a 17% rate in most countries.

The Treasury will continue with the long-term policy to lower purchase taxes. Zeif, however, made very clear that no cuts were imminent.

Last time there was talk about such cuts on car radios, walkmans, computers and the like, the government was forced to make them when importers stopped bringing in the merchandise, as customers held off purchases in the expectation of the promised lower taxes.

Zeif confirmed that February's lowering of the purchase tax on car radios from 85% to 45% has helped to moderate their high theft rate.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Rafael workers step up sanctions: Rafael managing director Yitzhak Gat has sent letters to 350 employees, asking them to resign. If they do not, he told the worker's committee and a Histadrut representative at a meeting yesterday, they will be fired and receive worse benefits than if they left voluntarily.

In response, the workers stepped up their sanctions. All workers have been instructed to refuse to do any work outside the plant. The union said if management takes any further action, the sanctions would be further strengthened. *Yigal Kotzer*

Israel Electric Corp. appoints new internal audit committee head: The Israel Electric Corporation yesterday appointed board member Yehuda Hame'iri as chairman of the company's board of directors internal audit committee. Hame'iri will take over from Naphtali Ben-Yehuda, who no longer serves on the company's board of directors.

In other news, two of the Electric Corp.'s board members yesterday criticized the workers committee's objections to the board's decision to give chairman Edi Amorai and managing director Moshe Katz bonuses. Freddy Malik and Saphir Silensky said Amori and Katz earn about 10 percent less than some of the top employees which work under them.

45% of Hapoalim's series 2 warrants exercised: Approximately 45% of Bank Hapoalim's series 2 warrants were exercised yesterday, the last day investors had to exercise warrants into shares. The warrants were issued in the framework of Bank Hapoalim's offering in May 1993 during which the government issued 88.8 million series 2 warrants at a price of NIS 0.2 per warrant. The warrants exercise price was NIS 3.7.

The government, which now holds 76% of Bank Hapoalim's shares, raised NIS 175m. from the exercise of the warrants. Investors who exercised their warrants yesterday lost about 4% of their initial investment since the price of the share was lower than the warrants exercise price.

Bill approved making it easier for customers to switch banks: The Knesset finance committee yesterday approved a bill by committee chairman Gedalya Gal (Labor) aimed at making it easier for customers to switch banks, by requiring banks to cancel liens on a client's property for debts that have already been repaid within a fixed amount of time. The bill, which will now be sent to the plenum for its second and third reading, also stipulates that banks have the same obligations toward loan guarantors as they do toward their customers.

Plans approved to build government office complexes: Finance Minister Avraham Shohat yesterday approved plans to build government office complexes and courts throughout the country. The $500 million project will spread over 330,000 square meters during a period of five to 10 years.

IDB Holding reports 80% decline in net earnings

GALIT LIPKIS BECK

IDB HOLDING yesterday reported a 80 percent fall in net profits for the first quarter to NIS 14.2 million from NIS 71.4m. during the corresponding period last year.

The decline was mainly due to a NIS 31m. fall in prices of securities traded on the stock exchange held by group companies.

IDB Holding, which invests in companies engaged in industry, communications and high technology, said in the directors report that second quarter profits fell by an additional NIS 10m. in the period ending May 24 as a result of the continued decline in the market value of the group's tradeable securities.

The drop in first quarter earnings was also due to a decline in IDB Holding's capital gains to NIS 19m. from NIS 52m.

The company's profits for the first quarter include a dividend of NIS 5.3m. received from Israel Discount Bank. IDB Holding has a 13.7% interest in Discount.

Revenue from sales and services increased to NIS 222.35m. from NIS 183.13m.

IDB Development, which centralizes investment activities of the IDB group, reported a 62% drop in net profits to NIS 26.2m. from NIS 69.5m. for the corresponding period last year.

The fall was blamed mainly on the NIS 34m. drop in prices of securities traded on the stock exchange held by group companies.

The company said it suffered an additional NIS 10m. loss due to the group's investments in securities in the period starting April 1 and ending May 24.

IDB Development's lower profits were also due to capital gains, which fell to NIS 27m. in the first quarter from NIS 37m.

The company said in the directors report that the closure of the territories and competition from imports hindered some of the companies' business on the local market.

Total assets of IDB Development at the end of last year were NIS 4.9 billion, while shareholders' equity was NIS 2.2b.

During the second quarter this year, CellCom Israel – a company founded by the US-based Bell-South Corp., the Safra brothers from Brazil and the IDB group – won a tender for a license to operate a second mobile radio-telephone service in Israel.

CellCom plans to invest $300m. over the next three years to set up the infrastructure for the new network.

Israel Chemicals suffers 54% fall in first quarter net earnings

COMPANY RESULTS

RACHEL NEIMAN and GALIT LIPKIS BECK

ISRAEL Chemicals reported a 54 percent drop in first quarter net profits to NIS 19.8 million from NIS 43.2m. in the same period last year.

Revenues increased to NIS 828m. from NIS 763m. Profit margins fell to 20% from 23%.

The company cited a downturn in the world fertilizer market and the seasonal nature of chemical products used in agriculture, usually higher toward the second half of the year.

• **Malibu Israel**, a contractor-investor, has reported a NIS 7.49m. net loss, compared with a NIS 7.6m. net profit during the same period last year.

Profit margins fell to 26% from 44%. Revenues jumped to NIS 77m. from NIS 48.7m.

• **The Harel Hamishmar Insurance Group** reported a 5% fall in net profit for the first quarter to NIS 6.5m. from NIS 6.9m. in the same period last year.

The drop in profitability was mainly due to a fall in earnings from investments as a result of the decrease in prices of securities on the Tel Aviv Stock Exchange.

In the life insurance sector, Harel Hamishmar showed a profit of NIS 7m. Total premiums from life insurance rose to NIS 111m. from NIS 101m.

The company reported a growth in net profits of its non-life insurance sector to NIS 10.6m. from NIS 9.4m.

In the directors report, the company said profits from the industrial insurance category increased, while strong competition pushed car insurance earnings down.

• **Maman**, an air cargo concern, announced a 8% rise in net profits for the first quarter to NIS 4m. from NIS 3.75m.

Profit margins rose to 53% from 45%.

Per share earnings rose to NIS 0.117 from NIS 0.107.

The company said it registered NIS 1.5m. in deferred taxes on losses on its investment portfolio. If taken into account, quarterly net profits would be NIS 2.6m.

• **Macpell**, a textile manufacturer, announced a net loss of NIS 3.3m. for the first quarter, compared with a net profit of NIS 2.6m. for the same period last year.

Sales declined slightly to NIS 36.4m. from NIS 36.6m.

Gross margins dropped to 7% from 14%.

The company said it experienced a NIS 1.2m. loss on its securities portfolio during the last quarter.

Until the US and European recessions, Macpell had manufactured principally for the Limited group.

The company is now taking steps to expand its client list.

• **Degem Systems** announced NIS 3.8m. in first quarter net profits, compared with a net loss of 3.6m.

Profit margins were rose to 68% from 46.7%.

Per share earnings were NIS 0.50, compared with a per share loss of NIS 0.57.

Restraining order issued against Nakash

EVELYN GORDON

DEPUTY Supreme Court President Aharon Barak has issued a temporary restraining order against former North American Bank director Joseph Nakash, preventing him and his company – Nakash Brothers Realty – from selling shares in the Yigal Ltd. holiday village firm.

The order, which was requested by the official receiver in his role as North American Bank's liquidator, also prevents Ofer Brothers Investments from exercising its right of first refusal on the shares.

Nakash was convicted in December by the Jerusalem District Court of helping to cause North American Bank's collapse by using his position as a director to give credit to firms in which the Nakash brothers held stock.

He was therefore ordered to pay NIS 482 million to the receiver, but the money was never paid.

The receiver therefore asked the Tel Aviv District Court for a liquidation order against Nakash, which the court declined to issue, and an appeal on this decision is now pending before the Supreme Court.

In his request, the receiver noted that a restraining order had already been granted against the sale of Nakash's shares in Coral Beach Eilat Ltd. But it does not cover Nakash's 50% stake in Yigal Ltd., which, at the time, the receiver didn't know about.

The order will be in force until the court rules on the liquidation appeal.

Saguy: Mizrahi conditions loans on insuring car with bank

EVELYN GORDON

BANK Mizrahi appears to be conditioning car loans on the client's purchase of car insurance from the bank, chairman of the Knesset finance committee's subcommittee on insurance Gideon Saguy (Labor) said yesterday.

The subcommittee was discussing the bank's entry into the car insurance field, announced by ads which appeared about two weeks ago. Although banks already sell certain types of insurance, such as life and apartment insurance, this is the first time any bank has entered the car insurance field.

While the ads do not mention any conditions relating to the insurance, Saguy said, an internal memo circulated by the bank "indirectly stated that the credit [for car purchases] would be conditioned on the [purchase of] insurance."

"I see a gross violation of the law in the publication of the ads and in the internal memos – in the fact that [the bank] is essentially selling insurance without a license, in the fact that it is collecting fees in violation of the law, and in the fact that the sale of one product is being conditioned on the sale of another," Saguy said.

The Treasury's supervisor of insurance also said Mizrahi might be violating the law, Saguy said, but the bank has not replied to questions.

Mizrahi told the subcommittee it has not broken any laws, and promised to give the Treasury full information on its new program.

The Bank of Israel said it supports allowing the banks to own insurance agencies and sell "standardized" insurance policies, which don't require special expertise. However, it is not clear that car insurance falls into this category, central bank spokesman Yoav Lehman said.

New system aims to outfox car thieves

A SOPHISTICATED system for preventing car thefts and tracking down stolen cars was unveiled yesterday in Tel Aviv.

The system was presented by Ituran, a new subsidiary of Tadiran.

The system includes equipment installed in the car, receivers and transmitters spread out throughout the country and a national monitoring center which will operate 24 hours a day.

A total of $150 million was invested in the system, with 100 stations to be set up by the end of 1995.

"This is a sophisticated system capable of providing the location of any car at any given moment, in real time," company general manager Amnon Bruchiel explained.

A similar system has been working successfully in eight large US cities over the past four years. Vehicles outfitted with the system also have a sophisticated alarm.

The system allows for immediate tracking of stolen vehicles within seconds of when thieves break into them or drive them away.

The tracking system then informs both the police and the car owner exactly where the car is.

It can also open a line of communications with the thieves and warn them they have been discovered and should surrender.

It also offers drivers a two-way communications system enabling them to report emergencies and receive directions.

Ituran hopes to sell 50,000 units in 1995, with the system costing $650 and monthly subscription fees costing $15 per customer. (Itim)

ISRAEL MONEY MARKETS

Patah (foreign currency deposit rates) (1.6.94)

Currency (deposit for:)	3 MONTHS	6 MONTHS	12 MONTHS
U.S. dollar ($250,000)	3.875	4.250	4.750
Pound sterling (£100,000)	3.500	3.750	4.250
German mark (DM 200,000)	4.125	4.125	4.250
Swiss franc (SF 200,000)	3.125	3.125	3.125
Yen (10 million yen)	0.500	0.625	0.750

(Rates vary higher or lower than indicated according to deposit)

Shekel Foreign Exchange Rates* (31.5.94)

	CHECKS AND TRANSFERS		BANKNOTES		Rep.
	Buy	Sell	Buy	Sell	Rates**
Currency basket	3.2850	3.3320	—	—	3.3088
U.S. dollar	3.0139	3.0564	2.98	3.10	3.0370
German mark	1.8385	1.8645	1.81	1.89	1.8490
Pound sterling	4.5543	4.6185	4.46	4.67	4.5824
French franc	0.5369	0.5445	0.52	0.55	0.5408
Japanese yen (100)	2.8625	2.9231	2.83	2.96	2.9047
Dutch florin	1.6379	1.6610	1.61	1.68	1.6487
Swiss franc	2.1548	2.1852	2.12	2.22	2.1685
Swedish krona	0.3874	0.3929	0.38	0.40	0.3903
Norwegian krona	0.4233	0.4293	0.42	0.44	0.4264
Danish krone	0.4679	0.4745	0.46	0.48	0.4714
Finnish mark	0.5548	0.5626	0.54	0.57	0.5587
Canadian dollar	2.1759	2.2065	2.14	2.24	2.1802
Australian dollar	2.2176	2.2489	2.17	2.28	2.2386
S. African rand	0.8288	0.8405	0.48	0.66	0.8349
Belgian franc (10)	0.8920	0.9045	0.88	0.92	0.8979
Austrian schilling (10)	2.6110	2.6478	2.56	2.69	2.6294
Italian lira (1000)	1.8965	1.9232	1.85	1.96	1.9062
Jordanian dinar	—	—	4.21	4.47	4.2518
Egyptian pound	—	—	0.86	0.91	0.9415
ECU	3.5323	3.5821	—	—	3.5574
Irish punt	4.4738	4.5369	4.37	4.65	4.5051
Spanish peseta (100)	2.2264	2.2578	2.17	2.31	2.2417

* These rates vary according to bank. ** Bank of Israel.

SOURCE: BANK LEUMI

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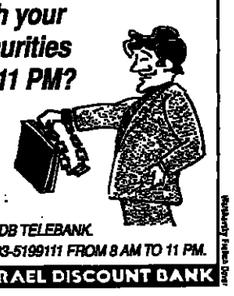

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Key Representative Rates

		Change
US dollar	NIS 3.0370	- 0.10%
Sterling	NIS 4.5824	- 0.12%
Mark	NIS 1.8490	+ 0.02%

INT'L STOCK MARKETS

New York market indexes

	Last	Change
DJ Industrials	3758.06	-0.92
DJ Transport	1628.35	+5.52
DJ Utils	186.26	-0.47
DJ Comp	1311.12	+1.23
NYSE Indust	310.31	-0.91
NYSE Transport	249.85	+0.71
NYSE Comp	252.3	-0.49
NASDAQ Utils	159.55	-0.68
S&P 100	423.99	-0.43
S&P Spot Index	456.8	-0.73
AMEX Comp	440.7	-0.24

NYSE stocks

	Unchanged	Advances	Declines
Share movements	+646	961	1193
Volume up (in 1000's)			86480
Volume down (in 1000's)			98446

Other stock market indexes

	Last	Change
FTSE 100	2970.5	+4.1
Tokyo Nikkei average	20973.5	+134.6
Singapore all-share index	586.53	-2.54
Hong Kong Hang Seng index	9553.56	+29.93

Israeli stocks in NY

	Last	Change
NYSE / AMEX		
Am Is Pap	43.875	-0.625
Ampal A	8.125	-0.25
Aryt	2.125	-0.375
Biotech	3	-0.125
Carmel Cont	9.25	+0.25
Electro Chem-Frutarom	2.75	0
Elscint	2.25	-0.25
Etz Lavud	8.125	-0.25
Etz Lavud A	7.125	-0.125
Laser Inds C	6	+0.125
PEC	27.25	-0.5
Tadiran	16.75	-0.875
NASDAQ / over-the-counter		
Aladdin	6.25	-0.375
4D	5	-0.375
Ampal 6.5	25.5	0
BVR Tech	7.25	-0.75
Converse Tech	9	+0
Def. Sys	8.875	-0.25
ECI Tel	17.75	+0
Edunetics	6.5	+0
Edu-Soft	9.75	-1.75
Electric Fuel	11.25	-0.375
EFFI	17.125	+0.375
Elbit	25.5	-2.75
Elron	12.5	-0.5
Eshed Robotec	1.0625	-0.3125
M. Systems	5.25	-0.125
Gilat	9.75	-0.25
ISG	3.5	+0.25
Geotek	9.5	+0
Health Tech	2.6875	+0.4375
Idan	0.625	+0
IIS	7.25	-0.375
Interpharm	21.625	-0.25
Isramco	1.73125	+0.0625
Istek	0.8125	-0.0625
Koor Bond	-	-
Lannet	7	-0.375
Lanoptics	8	+0
Magal	5.375	-0.625
Medis-Al	8.5	-0.125
Magic	10	-0.375
Orbotech	8	-0.5
Oshap Tech	2.75	+0.125
Rada	3.75	-0.25
Robomatics	3.375	+0.5625
Sapiens	4.75	+0.0625
Scitex	15.875	-0.25
Silicom	4.5	+0
T.A.T. Technol	3.6875	-0.3125
Taro Vit	5.75	+0.0625
Teledata	13.375	-0.125
Telegraph	4.375	-0.5
Teva	22.875	-1.375
TVG	1.875	-0.375

(All listings are closing quotes)

Source: CommStock Trading Ltd. (Date 31-MAY-94)

INT'L MONEY MARKETS

Dollar crossrates (US)

			Last	Change
Pound:	spot		1.5107	+0.0007
	Jun.future (CME)		1.5086	+0
D-mark:	spot		1.8468	+0.0007
	Jun.future (CME)		0.6089	-0.0011
S-franc:	spot		1.4033	-0.0025
	Jun.future (CME)		0.7123	-0.0002
Yen:	spot		104.8	+0.27
	Jun.future (CME)		0.009549	-4.7e-005
CanDlr:	spot		1.3834	-0.003
	Jun.future (CME)		0.7225	+0.0022
AusDlr:	spot		0.7372	+0.0021
	Jun.future (CME)		0.7376	+0.0047
F-franc:	spot		5.6295	+0.0007
It Lira:	spot		1591.5	+2
Nlg:	spot		1.8466	+0.0011
AusShig:	spot		11.56	+0
Rand:	spot		3.6325	-0.01
ECU:	spot		1.1701	+0.0009
Bonds	future		103.563	-0.46875
S and P	future		458.55	+0.05

Libor rates

		Last	Change
Dollar	3 months	4.625	0
Dollar	6 months	5	0
Dollar	12 months	5.5625	+0.0625
Sterling	3 months	5.25	+0.0625
Sterling	6 months	5.5625	0
Sterling	12 months	6.125	+0.1875
S-franc	3 months	4.25	0
S-franc	6 months	4.25	0
S-franc	12 months	4.3125	+0.0625
D-mark	3 months	5.125	0
D-mark	6 months	5.125	0
D-mark	12 months	5.125	0
Yen	3 months	2.1875	0
Yen	6 months	2.25	0
Yen	12 months	2.4375	0

(Spot market listings are from approximately 23:30 Israel time. All others are closing quotes.)

Source: CommStock Trading Ltd. (Date 31-MAY-94)

Foreign financial data courtesy of
CommStock Trading Ltd.
Futures, Options. Stocks, Bonds and Mutual Funds
34 Ben Yehuda St., Jerusalem,
Tel. 02-244963, 03-5758826
Fax. 02-244876

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INT'L COMMODITIES AND METALS

US commodities

	Last	Change
Cocoa (Jul) (CEC)	1398	+52
Coffee (Jul) (CEC)	126	+4.7
Sugar no 11 (Jul) (CEC)	12.04	+0.25
Wheat (Jul) (CBOT)	327.5	+9.5
Soybeans(Jul)(CBOT)	701	+27
Orange juice (Jul)(CEC)	101.85	+4.1
Crude oil light (Jul)(CEC)	18.31	+0.28

London commodities

	Last	Change
Cocoa (Jul) (LCE)	1027	-38
Coffee (Jul) (LCE)	2117	+132
Wheat (Jun)(LCE)	114.25	+0
Brent crude oil (Jul)(IPE)	1645	+6

Spot market metals (US)

		Last	Change
Gold:	spot	385.97	-0.72
Silver:	spot	5.58	+0.11

New York metal futures

	Last	Change
Gold (Jun)	387.1	+2.4
Silver (Jul)	5.55	+0.075
Platinum (Jul)	404.2	+4.3
Palladium (Jun)	138.35	+1.4
High-grade copper (Jul)	1.0375	+0.007

London metal fixes

	Last	Change
Gold AM fix	386.25	+2.85
Gold PM fix	387.6	+2.2
Silver fix	549.5	+4.5
Platinum PM fix	399	+1.75

Month in parentheses signals contract exp. date"

(Spot market listings are from approximately 23:30 Israel time. All others are closing quotes.)

Source: CommStock Trading Ltd. (Date 31-MAY-94)

TEL AVIV STOCKS

Multi-sided trading

Name	Price	%chg
Commercial Banks		
FstInW1	506	-30.0
FstInW2	5178	-15.0
General	9768	-7.5
IndDevDD		
IndDvPrD		
LeumiW1		
MercC	214	-8.3
OHH	154128	-5.0
Trade	726	-
TradeC	185.50	0.3
Mortgage Banks & Finance		
Adanim	366938	-0.5
Carmel	806	
CarmC3	302	-5.6
DevtMB	20398	-5.0
FinsMB	35109	-8.5
IndepMB	76080	
J lemC	131.00	
J lemW	200	-9.9
JlemBnk	390	-2.0
LeumiMBR	100540	-3.0
Mishkan	32679	-5.0
MishkanC	180.50	-2.4
Mizrav	5241	-10.0
TefahotB	174930	-5.0
TefahotR	169160	-10.0
Financial Institutions		
Shiton	8861	
Insurance		
Ienashw1	2111	-3.0
Ararat	2147	-1.2
Ayalon	885	-10.0
AyalonC	506	-6.5
Eitan	335	-8.9
EitanC1	159.00	-3.4
Hadar1	1346	-5.0
Hadar5	1348	-5.0
HamshmrC	232	
Hamshmr1	1793	
Hamshmr5	1709	
Menorah1	1288	-5.0
Menorah5	1256	-5.0
Phoenix1	3578	-8.0
Phoenix5	3560	-7.2
Sahar	646	-0.5
Zion5	10580	-2.8
Trade & Services		
Issahmira	684	-9.5
Isishau	1520	-0.5
Assuta	1257	-3.5
AssutaC1	283	-1.9
Baran	2904	-4.0
BezekW2	242	
BndWthC1	129.50	-0.8
BndWthC2	124.50	
BondWth1 L	4444	-5.0
Clal0.1	102771	-10.0
ClalCmpC	341	-5.3
ClalTrW5	480	-14.4
CorBeach	2271	-4.5
CoOp	1125	-1.0
Crystal	4850	-2.0
DanHotl1	2588	-2.3
DCL	810	-10.0
DCLW	353	-20.3
Elad	221	-2.6
Feldman	339	
GanHadar	260	-4.1
GanHadC	190.00	-2.1
GlilagG2	190.00	-5.9
GranitC1	119.50	-1.6
GranitW2	125.00	-8.1
HGlilC1	134.50	-2.7
HGlilW1	217	-13.2
HGlil	704	-9.0
Intgame1	3872	-1.0
Intgame5	3540	-2.0
Iscal	2372	-10.0
Lraz	1427	-2.5
Mafil	1092	-9.0
Medtech	814	-10.0
MedtechW	1248	-8.0
MLLC1	180.00	
Rapac	2429	-4.5
Reshet	195.50	
ReshetC1	117.00	
Team	4627	-5.0
TeamC1	207	-5.0
TeamC2		
Telsys	1457	
Topline	447	-5.9
YaadC1	134.50	
Ysans	1350	
Yeda1	1003	
Yona	848	-3.0
Industrials		
ashotashk	428	-10.1
electracp	1696	-10.0
Imco	714	
solog	650	-10.0
wilger	456	-10.1
yehodead	465	-5.7
AckersC	133.50	-0.4
AckindC	322	-10.1
AdacomC2	54.00	20.5
Alliance	1265	-10.0
Alony	483	
AlonyW1	39.00	
Alumit1L	12836	
Angel	12414	-5.0
Argaman	798	-8.9
AryC1	104.00	
Ashply	2078	-10.0
Ashplyc1	171.00	
AshplyW2	1467	-13.5
AshtrmW1		
Ashtrom	376	-2.1
Asmon	758	-4.6
AzmonW1	404	
Azmuth	716	
Belmon	856	-1.1
BoulosC1	190.50	-4.3
Cablos C2	330	-0.6
CablesC3	126.00	-1.6
CablesW3	549	-3.0
Careline	1121	-10.0
Cargal	1400	-1.0
Castro	1377	
Cham	634	-2.2
ChemW1	82.00	-10.4
CldStC	334	
CldStr0.1	2593	-10.0
Clind C9	166.00	-5.8
CycloneW	8888	-4.5
Cyclone1	19874	-10.0
Cyclone5	13394	-4.3
CyclonC1	180.00	-3.7
CyclonC2	182.00	-4.5
Datronc	171.50	-2.0
DatronW2	2236	
Datron1	4032	-2.0
Deosion	614	-3.6
Dagem1	1269	
Delta 1	1863	-5.0
Delta3	1777	-4.0
DobekB	15827	-3.5
DobekR	15888	
EagleC		
EagleC2	45.00	
EagleW3	35.90	
Eagle1	92.00	
Edgar	472	
EdgarC2	133.00	
EldanTec	117.00	-8.7
ElbitW1	14871	-15.7
Elcoind	5095	
Elctrnc	1139	-9.8
ElcniW1	162.50	-20.0
Elcr 0.5	8779	-1.5
ElectrG4	316	
ElecC	282	
ElndRbc	651	-7.3
Evrot	545	-5.6
Fertis5	2718	-2.0
Ferti0.1	3122	-1.0
FeuchtW1	5483	-0.3
FeuchtW5	4093	-3.0
Five J	627	
FrutarC1	180.50	-1.8
FrutarC2	176.50	3.2
GiborC1	103.50	-2.8
GiborSab	458	-3.0
GiborW2	650	-18.8
Golan	1388	-2.2
Hamasl1	2846	-10.0
Hatehof1	609	-1.8
Hasehof5	380	-1.8
Hod	323	-8.8
Holit	283	-3.1
IsrCan1	2489	
Jaf-ora	780	-2.1
Kedem	6440	
KedemC2	186.00	
Kater	625	
KitanC1	140.00	-1.1
KitanW1		
KB5	2808	-1.2
Lipski	3063	-2.0
Lodzia1	1868	
Lodzia4	1649	
LuhotGal	273	-9.9
MacPel	566	
MacPelW1	1.00	
Magam	423	-8.0
Maxima1	1765	-10.0
Maxima5	1692	-10.0
Mel Eden	1056	
Modgal	971	
Mozaic1	778	-10.0
Mozaic5	741	-10.0
NegCoram	489	-1.3
Nehusht1	1132	-10.0
Nehusht5	893	-8.0
Naviot	1234	
NaviotW1		
Nico1	1634	
NMC	583	-0.2
Ofis	822	-10.0
Ophir	289	-7.9
Orbit1	693	
Ordan	480	-9.9
PackerW2	14719	
Pargod	2768	-10.0
PazChen	801	
Pila	848	-8.0
PolgatA	473	-10.1
PolgatC1	177.50	-1.1
PolgatW3	229	
Polygon	1220	
PolygonC	168.50	
PCB	903	-0.6
Rabintex	1412	-10.0
RabinxW	630	-19.9
Sanfol1	737	-7.1
Seno1	1252	-7.5
Seno5	1125	-4.0
Sefen	773	-3.0
Shemen	18276	-10.0
Spectrnx	469	-7.9
Steel	164.50	-5.8
Sunfrost	9163	-10.0
Tasl	63732	-7.0
Tadiran	829	-10.0
TadirC	199	-2.2
Tadea	985	
Tiv	879	-5.0
Tobias1	499	
Topper	359	
TATC1	274	-9.9
TAT1	764	-10.0
Unibar1	851	-8.8
Unibar5	388	-4.9
Vitalgo1	781	-0.5
Vulcan	260	-8.1
VulcanC	153.00	
Wardinon	19695	-1.0
WardinW3	12828	-0.5
YtongC2	371	-2.4
Zahavi	479	
Zika1	1536	-10.0
Zika5	1400	-10.0
Zikit1	4931	
Zikit5	4352	-4.0
ZionCab1	1506	-10.0
Zuhdrnd	980	-3.0
Property, Building & Agriculture		
jacolehr	375	
ravad	976	
taarlad	651	-10.0
Y.steng	482	
Alrov	2406	
AlrovC		
AlrovW1L	1289	
Arasim	811	-5.5
Arazim C1	175.00	-0.3
Arledan1	1230	
Asela	2625	
AselaC4	159	
AselaW2	1738	
AzorprC1	247	-1.2
AzorprW3	11.00	
AzorProp	583	-3.0
Barenol1	1915	-3.2
Bayside5	28981	-10.0
BaysidC1	30305	-5.0
BenYakar	4432	-10.0
BenYakrW1	1393	-5.0
BenYhsrC	98.00	-1.0
BldgRes	6312	-7.0
Contrctr	2588	-8.2
Dankner	1891	
DenKnerC	171.00	-3.4
Daradi1	384	-6.7
Dunbar	6487	-9.0
DunbarCw	745	-4.7
Engel	784	-10.0
GoldHous	281	-7.9
GldHousC	179.00	
Hilan	320	-10.0
HilanW4	407	-4.0
Ilapro	2365	-8.0
Israloan	2160	
IsralomC	225	
IsralomW	2407	
IsrasC1	301	-1.5
Israel0.5	7283	-2.0
Israsl1	7588	-7.0
ICP5	31563	
Jaysour1	398	-5.0
Jordan	660	-1.8
LaskC1	125.50	
LaskdW1	50.50	
Lasnick	589	
Lishk5	280	-10.1
Lumir1	6883	-10.0
MalibuC		
MalibuC2	110.50	
Malibu1	1179	
MarLasC	219	
MarLasC2	93.00	-4.1
MarLasW3	300	
Minrav	11885	
Mishmael	286	
MTM	3891	-8.0
NectAviv	1602	-3.3
PriOr	6633	
RedSea	780	
Rogovin1L	1353	-5.0
Rogovin5	1352	
Rotem	797	
SaharHil		
Secom	401	
Shaked	1016	-2.0
Tashluz	1071	-2.0
Investment Companies		
maritime	1172	-1.3
taya	1717	-2.0
Ackerl1	1480	-4.0
Ackerl2	1386	-2.0
AfriarC	686	
Ampa	215315	
Arad	3701	
Azr aC2	253	-4.8
ClalW3	2487	-25.8
Clal50	7542	-4.0
DenberC	228	
Danbar1	3391	-10.0
Elem	3531	-10.0
Emeh	418	-5.0
ExportC4	283	-8.9
EzraC1	815	-0.3
Hiron5	10008	-1.0
IDLC5	182.50	-0.3
Kardan1	726	-5.0
KardanG2		
Kiti	1094	-10.0
Magor1	3094	-8.0
Magor5	2743	-5.0
Molet	979	-2.0
OcifC1	132.00	
OcifW1	5588	
Ofer	27781	-10.0
Pama0.1	1440	
Rim1	838	
Rim4	608	
SaharDev	2823	-8.7
Securis	4241	
SecurisC	137.50	
SecurisW	1530	
Taya	376	-5.3
TzurC1	172.00	-1.7
TzurShmr	94.50	-7.4
TzurW3	36.90	-34.9
Unico	5189	-10.0
Oil Exploration		
JoelC1	173.50	-8.0
JoelC1A	169.50	-8.1
MGN1	12184	
PARALLEL LIST		
Trade & Services		
afriehd	731	-4.9
ardis	1360	-10.0
gilitek	2179	-10.0
Edcira	318	-0.9
isibants	335	
mlvtshsha	907	-5.0
mbraya	3089	-4.0
radaentel	584	-2.2
tin	839	-2.0
Adan	2071	-10.0
AdanWt	1480	-73.5
Comtec	764	
Dalin1	28.10	-10.0
Dynet	1432	-7.5
Danly	5522	-10.0
Data	2280	-2.2
Elbach	780	-1.9
Greenbrg	1157	-10.0
ILDCHOT	786	-3.8
Kirol	235	-2.9
Kopel	851	
KopelC1	183.00	
MZPK	780	
Nirun1	476	-0.2
TrendLin	2032	-5.0
Property, Building		
a.dori	480	-3.8
alonihstz	125.00	
grandcir	253	
pandor	1097	-3.8
Adler	289	-6.0
Caesrea1	11021	-4.5
Geak	913	
GeakW1	629	
GeakC1	346	
Lasmich	290	
Lvnstn1	801	-8.0
Mellison	1182	-4.0
Oz	306	
Rasco	3426	-10.0
Scandia	6505	
ScandiaC	128.00	-8.0
UnicomG1	133.50	0.4
Unicom1	182.00	-8.3
Unicom5	193.50	-10.0
UnicorW3	170.00	
Industrials		
aboodlegn	422	
iacdoorlegn	813	-10.0
lipman	2201	-4.0
meshvhid	1148	-10.0
nisco	1380	-10.0
phyton	382	
raichert	2873	
tachem	578	-8.0
tolnabar	1621	-5.0
vientrix	408	
zhmetal	1404	-4.0
Adumim1	432	-1.6
Bar—Ton1	2851	-10.0
Baruch1	1805	-10.0
Baruch5	684	-8.8
Brosh1	680	-10.0
Dexter	2616	-10.0
Elram	290	-1.0
Gal	181.50	-10.0
Hamen	2617	-7.0
Kadmany1	483	-10.1
Kirgt	531	
Lakish1	3577	-8.5
ManC1	148.00	
Man1	582	
MLT	1373	
Neca	24328	-10.0
NecaG1	183.00	
Oholab	911	-4.0
Orsix	800	
OzsicC	120.50	
OrdePrnt	1085	-10.0
Poliaki	1462	-2.3
Shiedox	319	
Taste	1483	-1.0
TlbnvlG1		
Investment Companies		
darban1	2810	-10.0
ildor	1048	-9.7
marathon	95.00	
Binyan	173004	
Mirage	137.00	-4.2
MivtakG1		
Optima	448	-10.0
Regent1	320	-10.1
Yissum	151.50	
Oil Exploration		
Isramcow2	9.50	-27.6
DIKOEx1	5946	-1.0
Naphtha	25.00	-9.7

Two-sided trading

Name	Afternoon Price	Afternoon % Change	Afternoon Volume Shares	Morning Price	Morning % Change	Morning Volume Shares
Buildlpr	1220	-10.0	26000	1220	-10.0	18627
National	2200	-5.2	53000	2252	-3.0	18438
Wolfson	124036	2.0	75	125252	3.0	175
Abjac	101.0	-5.2	1720000	97.5	-8.5	485212
Ackerlin	693	-3.5	22500	693	-3.5	74329
Adacom	224	10.0	729000	224	9.8	531989
Afris 0.	431785	-4.0	356	431785	-4.0	55
Afrisr	409476	-3.7	125	421176	-1.0	347
Agan	4087	-4.2	4500	4087	-4.2	12644
Agis	2368	-2.0	28400	2374	-1.7	15092
Aryt	669	-5.5	14000	708		
Avner	17.7	-0.5	2280000	17.8		1458856
Azorim	4369	-3.0	13950	4369	-3.0	8645
ALPM	13055	-1.0	5040	13187		7510
Bezek	610	-2.0	577500	622		
Boulo	265	-8.7	54000	261	-10.0	88749
Cables	1810	-5.0	25000	1810	-5.0	42472
Clal Com	22383	-10.0	300	22383	-10.0	
Clal Ele	32383	-4.0	3180	32298	-4.3	2957
Clal Tra	1195	-3.0	52800	1232		79517
Clal 10	8181	-5.0	41400	8268	-4.0	13800
Clalins	1780	-2.5	31200	1799	-1.5	10976
Cldstr 5	2615	-4.7	1400	2615	-4.7	2083
Clinds	1710	-3.7	116400	1706	-4.0	33239
CohenDev	752	-10.0	7500	752	-10.0	7912
Danbar 5	2680	-10.0		2680	-10.0	
Dead Sea	1380	-1.2	199800	1369	-2.0	96391
Delek	7400	-2.7	9300	7343	-3.5	3649
Discinv	23151	-1.5	20250	23445	-0.3	4796
Elbit	26642	-4.0	10860	26850	-3.3	3646
Elco	8191	-4.7	4250	8599		
Elite 5	1398	-2.5	156000	1434		
Elron	12635	-4.0	8400	12733	-3.3	1760
Evergr n	3093	-6.5	7200	3134	-5.3	3850
Export	1672	-7.2	5000	1686	-6.5	9391
Fibi	54667	-4.2	3120	55951	-2.0	882
Formula	2103	-9.2	4200	2108	-9.0	17496
Frstint1	36692	-6.7	2940	36397	-7.5	1467
Frstint5	34391	-3.2	3540	34391	-3.2	1078
Frutarom	853	-3.7	17500	859	-3.0	34490
Gahelet	9047	-10.0	1200	10052		
Granit	535	-4.0	44000	535	-3.9	25009
Hapoalm	358	-3.2	1165000	361	-2.4	949175
Hapolm	11878	-3.5	10200	12309		7964
IndBldg	448	-3.0	305000	442	-4.3	120196
IndDevBK	36451	-9.0	200	36751	-8.3	238
Isramco	20.0	-6.5	24800000	20.3	-5.1	4914474
IsrCorp1	32898	-3.2	1080	32827	-3.8	622
IsrCorp5	26355	-7.7	770	25998	-9.0	1173
IsChem	229	-5.0	1685000	241		
IDB	1150	-3.2	205700	1150	-3.3	53530
IDBDev	63427	-3.0	2850	63754	-2.5	1185
ILDC	1583	-5.5	34200	1600	-4.5	31278
JEC	1579	-6.0	67100	1575	-6.3	25784
JOEL	292	-8.5	560000	302	-5.3	248673
Kardan5	628	-9.0	70000	654	-5.2	56471
Kitan	1143	-3.0	40000	1151	-2.3	13103
Klil	2756	-3.7	2400	2756	-3.7	4554
Koor	21272	-4.2	41000	20994	-5.5	6710
Leumi	327	-2.7	1536000	331	-1.5	381297
LeumiW2	16.0	-21.7	495000	17.0	-16.7	653227
Lifshiz1	326	-10.0	20000	326	-9.9	
Makhtesh	1557	-4.2	127500	1561	-4.0	50567
Malibu5	1069	-3.5	86400	1069	-3.5	24659
Maman	760	-4.0	6000	792		
Marit1	3114	-6.0	16100	3131	-5.5	6651
Mashov	733	-7.7	46000	716	-8.9	
Mehadrin	16811	-3.2	480	17028	-2.0	669
MeirEzra	5785	-7.7	11750	5910	-5.8	6168
Mivtah	1788	-10.0	3200	1788	-10.0	11186
Multiock	1846	-5.2	9000	1870	-4.0	10290
MGN5	7877	-7.2	5850	7750	-8.7	4992
MLL1	517	-10.0		517	-9.9	
NatoilDS	59.5	-10.0		62.0	-6.1	153478
Ocif	8846	-4.5	3600	9263		
Ormat	912	-9.0	91800	1002		
Osem	1826	1.7	110400	1795		37020
OsemW1						
PazoilEx	250	-9.0	28000	251	-8.7	41680
Pecker	18127	-4.0		18127	-4.0	980
Periclas	2607	-4.0	18900	2607	-4.0	7707
Petrchem	612	-7.7	9000	617	-6.9	27362
Piryon	17935	-7.0	990	18417	-4.5	1174
PoalimW2	1.3			1.3		
PolgatB	546	-3.7	40000	544	-4.1	44726
Poseidon	192.5	-8.7	24000	193.0	-8.5	105557
Rogosin	3529	-6.7	3500	3566	-5.8	9812
SelaPump	201	-5.0	550000	204	-3.8	265850
SupersIB	5980	-3.0	14000	6042	-2.0	4392
Tamboue	744	-3.7	25000	736	-4.8	22795
Tempo1	1454	-10.0	12600	1454	-10.0	
Teva	66336	-4.0	16110	66509	-3.7	4490
TevaC	372	-3.0	33000	374	-2.3	50000
Tlbnveal	850	-8.2	37800	861	-7.0	29737
TAT5	735	-8.7	87500	739	-8.2	39659
Urdan 0.	340	-9.2	18000	341	-9.1	55769
Yaad	1332			1332		
Ytong	898	-3.0	108000	903	-2.5	60481

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SOURCE: ISRAEL DISCOUNT BANK

All indexes plummet on low turnover

TEL AVIV STOCK MARKET

ANDRE LUMBROSO

Two-Sided Index	Maof Index	Karam Index
187.61 -3.70%	188.09 -3.39%	201.51 -4.27%

THE pace of declines accelerated yesterday, as the Two-Sided Index dropped 3.7 percent, the Maof 3.4% and the Karam 4.3%.

Half the securities traded declined by 5% or more. The day's declines have wiped out the rises of last Thursday and Sunday, and their intensity seems to indicate that the story is far from over.

Turnover was NIS 198 million.

The low turnover was an indication of what took place on the market floor. There were simply no buyers.

Only when prices had declined sufficiently, and that meant generally by more than 5%, would buyers materialize.

Close to 140 securities were marked "sellers only."

The large number of poor financial reports could not help but depress the market.

It was the turn of the Discount group to post declines: IDB Development profits fell 62%, those of IDB Bankholding by 80%, Israel Chemicals by 55% and Ormat by 55%.

On the other hand, Bezek's profits rose, as did those of the Israel Electric Corporation, Osem and Elite.

This picture of poorer performance by companies was reinforced by the news that the index of leading economic indicators declined 0.2% during April.

The decline was attributed to a slowdown in construction activity as a result of the closure of the territories.

The fact is that there is a contradiction between the intensity of the downturn, which seems to be indicated by the fall in profits, and the very light decline in the leading indicators.

The selling mood was the product inter alia of redemptions of mutual funds by the general public, reportedly by more than NIS 150m.

There is talk of the general public breaking down and dumping its shares. Should this be true on a large scale, it might hamper any recovery efforts on the stock market.

Yesterday was the last day for exercising Hapoalim Warrant 2, which was expected to bring NIS 310m.

However, it brought in only NIS 140m., so there will be a "hole" of NIS 170m. in the government coffers.

Bank Hapoalim's share has been stuttering lately and that made the exercise of the option more difficult and less attractive.

It is certain that the Kupat Holim crisis was not making that share any more attractive, particularly after the rumors that the Histadrut might be contemplating selling some of its holding in the bank and Koor to inject cash into the fund.

Koor shares declined in price by 4.2%. Other shares which fell because of Kupat Holim were Teva, which went down 4%, and Agis, which fell 2%.

Adacom rose 9.8% to 224 points. This is far from its trough of 150 a few days ago, but a very long distance away from its high of 1,526 points three months ago.

Strong rally on FTSE wipes out 40-point decline

WORLD MARKET ROUNDUP

LONDON (Reuter) – The FTSE 100 index closed marginally higher, wiping out an earlier 40-point decline after FTSE futures staged a strong rally in late afternoon trading.

The FTSE 100 shares index ended 4.1 points up at 2,970.5.

FRANKFURT - German shares staged a tentative recovery late in the session amid short-covering after the DAX held around 2,110 in the face of a plunging bond market.

The 30-share DAX index ended up 9.55 points at 2,127.70.

PARIS - French shares finished sharply lower, as the market rushed to trade late in the session to meet the expiry of the May futures contract, traders said.

The CAC-40 index closed down 22.61 at 2,029.90.

ZURICH -Swiss shares ended lower, pulled down by weaker international bond and stock markets, dealer said. However the market ended above the day's lows as some buying reappeared in late afternoon trading.

The all-share SPI fell 11.16 points to 1,789.54.

TOKYO - Stocks ended higher, with the Nikkei average closing just below 21,000 after topping that level for the first time since September 14, 1993.

Hopes that the Japanese economy will pick up soon and expectations that a recent rally will continue has made bears quiet.

The Nikkei posted a new 1994 closing high for the third day in a row, up 134.62 points to 20,973.59.

HONG KONG - Stocks ended slightly firmer after a day of lackluster trade caused by holidays overseas and a lack of fresh domestic factors.

The Hang Seng index closed 29.93 points up at 9,553.56.

SYDNEY - The Australian share market closed weaker after showing little sign of life in afternoon trade. Brokers said holidays in the US and Britain had left the local bourse bereft of inspiration.

The All Ordinaries index closed down 10.0 points at 2081.8.

JOHANNESBURG - Yesterday was a market holiday in South Africa. On Monday the overall index closed up 15 points to 5,397 the industrial index was 21 points off at 6,549 and the gold index finished 35 points up at 1,920.

Dow closes slightly higher

WALL STREET REPORT

NEW YORK (AP) – Stocks finished at mostly lower levels yesterday as a subdued post-holiday atmosphere prevailed on Wall Street.

The Dow Jones industrial average managed to move into positive territory in the afternoon after drifting at slightly negative readings earlier in the session. Broader market indicators ended flat to modestly lower.

The Dow Jones Index rose 0.92% to 3758.02.

With investors lacking strong incentives to buy equities, stocks moved in tandem with the bond market where selling predominated.

Activity in both the stock and bond markets was sluggish following the long Memorial Day weekend. Investors also were reluctant to trade heavily while awaiting economic data due later this week.

A downturn in bond prices, which caused a corresponding rise in yields, apparently reflected renewed inflation fears and apprehension ahead of the economic reports.

Bond traders sold largely in reaction to a rise in commodity prices as measured by the Commodity Research Bureau Index, a barometer of raw materials prices that is sensitive to inflation.

CURRENCY CROSS-RATES

	MARK	STERLING	YEN	SFr	FFr
MARK	—	0.4018/21	63.61/64	0.8518/21	3.4175/80
STERLING	2.4876/86	—	158.25/37	2.1190/07	8.5000/73
YEN	1.5709/23	0.6314/19	—	1.3384/97	5.3687/41
SFr	1.1732/43	0.4715/19	74.66/71	—	4.0094/35
FFr	0.2925/27	0.1175/76	18.59/64	0.2492/94	—

Prices from 22:00 local time

INTERNATIONAL STOCK PRICES

Name	Last	Change
NEW YORK		
AMP Inc	64.75	-0.125
AMR Corp	55.25	+0.75
ASA	43.25	+0.5
Abbott Labs	29.875	-0.875
Acme Cleveland	10.875	+0.125
Advanced Micro	27	+0.75
Aetna Life	54.125	+0.25
Affiliated Publ	9.875	-0.25
Aflac	33.5	+0.125
Ahmanson (HF)	18.75	-0.125
Air Prods	42.25	-0.625
Alberto-Culv B	20.375	+0.125
Albertson's	28.125	-0.625
Alcan Aluminum	23.125	-0.125
Alco Standard	58	+0
Alex & Alex	15.875	+0.25
Allegheny Power	21.25	-0.25
Allied Signal	35.125	+0.375
Alcoa	70.625	+0.375
Amax	25.375	-0.5
Amdahl Corp	6.625	-0.25
Amerada Hess	49.5	-1.125
Amer Brands	32.5	-0.375
Amer Cyanamid	52.125	-0.25
Amer El Power	29	-0.125
Amer Express	27.625	+1.625
Amer Genl Corp	27.25	+0.125
Amer Greeting	28.125	+0
Amer Home Pr	58	-0.125
Amer Int'l	83.375	+0.5
Amer Natl Ins	47.0625	-1.1875
Amer Stores	25	-0.375
Amer T & T	54.5	-0.25
Ameritech	39.125	-0.125
Ametek Inc	13.75	-0.125
Amoco	58.875	-0.125
Analog Devices	28	+0.125
Anheuser-Busch	54.375	-0.5
Aon Corp	33.125	+0
Apple Computer	29.25	-0.6875
Archer Daniels	24.125	+0
Arkla	-	-
Armco	5.875	+0.125
Armstrong World	48.75	-1.75
Asarco	28	+0
Ashland Oil	37.125	-0.625
Atlantic Rchfld	100.875	-1.125
Auto Data Pro	53.375	+0.75
Autodesk	51.5	-0.5
Avery Dennison	29	+0.5
Avnet Inc	33.625	-0.5
Avon Products	56.875	+0
Balmco Corp	4.75	+0.25
Baker Hughes	19.875	+0.375
Ball Corp	26.75	-0.375
Bally	5.75	+0
Baltimore Gas	22.75	-0.375
Banc One Corp	33.375	+0.375
Bandag	51.125	+0
BankAmerica	48.5	-0.375
Bank of Boston	28	-0.125
Bank of New Yk	29.5	-0.25
Bankers Trst NY	70.375	+1
Barnett Banks	46.125	+0
Battle Mount Gd	10.625	+0
Bausch & Lomb	48.5	-0.75
Baxter Intl	25.75	+0.875
Becton Dickinson	38.125	+0.5
Bell Atlantic	53.375	-0.125
Bell Industries	16.625	+0.125
BellSouth	59.5	+0.5
HA Belo Corp	49.875	-0.125
Beneficial Corp	35.875	-0.25
Bethlehem Steel	19.25	-0.375
Beverly Entprs	13.5	-0.25
Black & Decker	18.5	-0.25
Boeing	46.375	+0
Boise Cascade	20.875	+0.25
Borden Inc	13.375	-0.125
Bowater Inc	24.25	+0.125
Briggs & Strttn	75.5	-2.875
Brstl Myrs Sqb	54.625	-0.125
Brit Airws ADR	57.375	+1.125
BP ADR	70.25	+0.25
Brit Steel ADR	30.375	-0.125
Brit Telecom	55.625	+0.75
Brooklyn Union	23.5	-0.125
Brown Group	37.875	+0.125
Brown & Sharpe	6.25	+0
Browning Ferris	29	-0.25
Brunswick	24.75	+0.125
Burlington Nthn	55.75	-0.25
CBI Inds	29.875	+0.25
CBS Inc	291.875	-8
CMS Energy Corp	22.625	-0.25
CPC Intern	48.5	+0
CSX Corporation	76.5	+0.75
Cabot Corp	51.75	+0.25
Campbell Soup	36.875	-0.25
Capital Cts ABC	742.5	-2
Capital Holdings	-	-
Carolina Pwr Lt	24.375	-0.25
Carpenter Tech	58.125	-0.625
Carter Hawley	9.75	+0
Caterpillar	106.875	-0.625
Centerior Energy	10.75	+0
Centex Corp	24.375	+0.375
Central & SW	22	-0.25
Ceridian	24.5	-0.125
Champion Intl	32.625	-0.25
Chrng Shoppers	9.5	+0
Chase Manhattan	37.75	+1.125
Chemical Bkg	38.375	+0.375
Chevron Corp	87	+0.5
Chiquita Brands	12.75	-0.25
Chrysler	49.625	+0.375
Chubb Corp	80.625	-0.625
Citicorp	38.5	+0.375
Clark Equipment	64.375	-0.5
Clevld Clifs	35.25	+0
Clorox	51.25	-0.25
Coastal Corp	28.25	-0.375
Coca Cola	40.375	-0.25
Coca Cola Ent	16.5	-0.5
Colgate Palmolv	57.25	-0.875
Comcast Corp A	17.4375	-0.3125
Commonw Edison	24.875	+0.375
Compaq	118.25	+1.75
Computa Ass Int	41.75	-0.5
Computer Sci	43.375	+0.125
Conagra	28.75	+0.25
Cons Edison	27.625	-0.375
Cons Freightwys	25.75	+0
Cons Nat Gas	37.75	-0.125
Cons Rail	54.875	-0.25
Contl Bank Corp	37.25	-0.125
Contl Corp	17.875	+0.125
Cooper Inds	36.25	-1
Coors (Adolph)	19.75	-0.25
Corning Inc	32.875	-0.625
Crane	25.875	+0.5
Cray Research	20.75	+0
Crown Cork Seal	38.125	+0.25
Cummins Engine	42.875	+0.25
Curtiss-Wright	33.375	+0
Cypress Semicon	16.625	+0.375
Cypress Mineral	29	+0
DSC Commun	22.25	+0.0625
DQE	31.75	+0.125
Dana Corp	51.5	-0.375
Data General	7.5	-0.125
Dayton Hudson	78.625	-0.875
De Beers	21.125	+0.125
Deere	69.75	+1
Delm Pwr & L	18.5	-0.125
Delta Air Lnes	45.625	+0
Deluxe Corp	28.375	+0.125
Detroit Edison	25.75	-0.25
Dial Corp Del	45.5	-1
Diebold Inc	43	+0.125
Digital Equip	22.125	-0.75
Dillard Dep St	31	-0.25
Disney (Walt)	43.25	-1
Dominion Res	39.5	-0.25
Donelley (RR)	27.5	+0.125
Dover Corp	53.125	-0.75
Dow Chemicals	66.25	-0.5
Dow Jones	36.375	+0
Dresser	22.625	+0.125
Dreyfus Corp	50.125	+0.5
Duke Power	38	-0.25
Dun & Bradst	58.25	+0.25
Du Pont	62	+0.25
E G & G Corp	14.625	-0.125
E-Systems	39.625	-0.5
Eastern Ents	23.75	+0.5
Eastman Kodak	46.875	+0.375
Eaton Corp	55	-1
Echlin Inc	27.125	+0.5
Emerson Elec	61	+1.125
Engelhard Corp	26.875	+0
Enron Corp	30.5	-0.125
Ensearch Corp	14	+0.25
Entergy Corp	28.875	-0.5
Ethyl Corp	13	-0.25
Exxon	61	-0.25
FMC Corp	46.25	-0.625
FPL Group	31.75	+0.375
Fedders Corp	7.25	+0.125
Federal Express	76.375	-0.125
Federal Mogul	28.5	+0.125
Fed Nat Mtge	83.5	-0.25
Federal Ppr Bd	23.25	+0.25
Fieldcrest Can	24.5	-0.375
First Bank Sys	38	+0
First Chicago	52.875	+0
Fst Fid Bcorp	46	+0
First Interst	80	-0.875
Fst Mississipp	15.5	+0
Fst Union Rlty	7.25	+0.125
Fleet Finl Grp	38.5	-0.375
Fleetwd Enterp	21	-0.125
Fleming Cos Ok	24.875	+0.375
Florida Prog	28.875	+0
Fluor Corp	51	+0
Food Lion Inc	5.75	+0.125
Ford Motor	57.75	-0.25
Foster Wheeler	37.625	-0.625
Freeport McMor	18.25	-0.5
GATX Corp	40	-0.125
Geico Corp	52.25	-0.25
GTE Corp	30.875	-0.25
Gannett	52.875	+0.625
Gap Inc Del	43.375	-1.25
Gencorp	12.375	-0.25
Gen Am Invest	21.125	-0.125
Gen Dynamics	42.375	+0
Gen Electric	49.625	+0.625
Gen Mills	54.75	+0.25
Gen Motors	53.75	-0.25
Gen Motors E	35.125	-1.625
Gen Public Util	28.625	-0.375
Gen Reinsurnce	119.75	-1.5
Gen Signal	30.75	+0
Genuine Parts	34.875	+0.125
Georgia Pac	64.5	+0
Gerber Prodcts	50.625	+0
Gillette	69.75	+0.875
Glaxo ADR	16.125	+0.125
Golden W Finl	39.5	-0.75
Goodrich (BF)	45.875	+0.25
Goodyear Tire	38.75	+0.5
Grace (WR&R)	41.75	-0.625
Grainger (WW)	65.125	+0
Grt Atl Pac Tea	23.875	-0.25
Grt Western Finl	18.5	+0.125
Grow Group	18.125	-0.125
Halliburton	30.375	+0
Hanna (MA)	38	-0.25
Harcourt	37	+0.375
Harnischfeger	19.375	+0
Harris Corp	47.375	+0.875
Harsco Corp	41.375	-0.25
Hartmax	6.5	+0.125
Hasbro	33	-0.5
Hecla Mining	11	+0.625
Heinz (HJ)	34.125	+0.375
Hmrch & Payne	26.125	-0.375
Hercules	105.375	-0.75
Hershey Foods	43	-0.25
Hewlett Packard	78.5	-0.5
Hilton Hotels	65.625	-0.625
Home Depot	45.125	-0.5
Homestake	19.5	+0
Honeywell	31.375	-0.5
Hormel (Geo)	20.375	-0.25
Household Ind	34	+0
Houston Inds	32.25	-0.375
Humana	20.5	+0.25
ITT Corp	83.5	-0.75
Illinois Power	20.5	0
Illinois Tool	40.75	-1.125
Imcera Group	-	-
INCO	25.5	-1
Ingersoll Rand	38	-0.25
Inland Steel	31.875	-0.25
Intel Corp	62.5	+1.125
Intergraph	9.25	+0.125
Interlake	2.5	+0.125
IBM	63.25	-0.375
Intl Fmly Entt	18	+0
Intl Flav & Fr	38.5	+0.375
Intl Multifoods	16.125	-0.375
Intl Paper	69.25	+0.125
Interpublic	32.5	-0.5
James River Ba	16.125	-0.25
Jefferson Plt	50.25	-0.125
Johnson & J	44.25	-0.25
K Mart	15	+0
Kellogg	52.375	+0.25
Kennametal	47.875	-0.125
Kerr-McGee	46	-0.25
KeyCorp	32.5	-0.375
Kimberly-Clark	56.5	+0
King World Prod	40	-2
Knight Ridder	56.375	+0
Kroger	23.875	-0.125
LSI Logic	24	+0.75
Leggett & Platt	37.5	-0.125
Leucadia Natl	37.625	-0.25
Lilly (Eli)	57.375	-0.375
Limited Inc	17.625	-0.25
LIN Broadcastng	117.313	-0.6875
Lincoln Nat	41.375	+1.25
Litton	30.625	-0.75
Liz Claiborne	21.875	-0.125
Lockheed Corp	63.875	-0.25
Loews Corp	89	-0.625
Lone Star	15.25	+0.125
Long Island Lt	20.125	-0.125
Longs Drug Strs	33	-0.125
Loral Corp	35.75	-0.25
Lotus Dev Corp	50	-1.375
Louisiana Land	41	-0.125
Louisiana Pacif	33.875	-0.125
Lowe's Co Inc	31.375	-0.375
Lubrizol	34.25	+0
MA Comm Inc	7.75	+0
MCI Commun	24	-0.3125
Manor Care	25.875	+0.25
Manville Corp	7.75	-0.125
Mapco Inc	62.5	-0.625
Marion Merrell	17.5	+0.125
Marriott	28.25	+0
Mrsh & McLn	87	+0
Martin Marietta	47.5	-1.25
Masco Corp	27.625	-0.125
Massmutual Corp	34	+0
Mattel Inc	26.375	+0.375
Maxus Energy	4.625	+0
May Dept St	38.75	-0.25
Maytag Corp	18.75	+0.25
McDermott	20.25	-0.125
McDonalds	62.125	+1.125
McDonnell Dglas	120.375	-2.125
McGraw Hill	66	-0.25
McKesson Corp	82.875	-1.875
Mead Corp	44.75	+0.125
Medtronic	82.25	-1
Mellon Bk	58.5	+0.5
Melville Corp	40.625	-0.25
Mentor Graphics	10.75	-0.0625
Mercantile Strs	35	-0.25
Merck Inc	30.5	+0
Meredith Corp	43.625	-0.375
Merrill Lynch	39	+0
Microsoft Corp	53.75	+1.375
Millipore	52.75	+1
Mine Safety App	38.5313	-0.21875
Minnesota Mine	51	-0.25
Mitchell Energy	20.125	+0.125
Mobil Corp	81	-0.375
Molex Inc	35.75	+0.25
Monarch Macht	10.375	
Monsanto	81.75	-1.125
Morgan (JP)	66	+0.75
Morrison-Knudsn	20.875	+0
Morton Intl	82	-0.75
Motorola Inc	46.75	-0.25
Multimedia Inc	28.8125	+0.0625
Murphy Oil	42	+0.25
Nacco Inds	56.75	+0.125
Nalco Chemical	32.875	+0.25
Nashua Corp	28.25	+0.375
Natl City Corp	28	+0.25
Natl Intergrp	18	+0
Natl Medcl Ent	16.375	-0.375
Natl Semi	19.375	+0.375
Natl Serv Ind	25.625	+0
NatWest Bank	39.25	+0.25
Navistar Int	16.625	+0.125
NBD Bancorp	29.75	-0.25
Network Systems	6.6875	+0
Neutrogena Corp	19	-0.25
New England El	35.25	-0.625
NY State El Gas	25.125	-0.25
NY Times A	25.5	+0
Newmont Mining	41.375	+0.75
Niag Mohawk	16.5	-0.125
Nicor Inc	26.875	-0.125
Nike Inc	59	-0.375
NL Industries	7.5	+0
Noble Affil	28.25	+0.125
Nordstrom	44.125	+0.375
Norfolk Southrn	63.625	-0.75
Northeast Util	22.75	+0.25
Nthn State Pwr	40.875	-0.25
Northrop	35.375	-0.375
Norwest Corp	28.75	-0.125
Nynex Corp	37.625	-0.25
Occidental Pet	19.375	+0.25
Ogden Corp	15.75	+0.125
Ohio Casualty	27	+0.5
Ohio Edison	17.5	+0
Olin Corp	49	+0
Omnicom Group	47	-0.875
Oneok Inc	16.25	-0.125
Oracle Systems	34.25	+0.125
Oryx Energy Co	17.5	-0.25
Oshkosh B'gosh	12.5	-0.5
Outboard Marine	23.125	+0
Overseas Ship	19.375	+0
Owens Corning	31.75	+0
PHH Group	36.75	-0.5
PNC Financial	30.625	+0.125
PPG Industries	74.75	-0.125
PSI Hldgs	22	-0.125
Paccar Inc	48.5	-0.5
Pacificorp	17.625	+0
Pac Enterprises	20.625	+0.375
Pac Gas & Elect	25.625	-0.125
Pac Telesis	30.375	+0
Pall Corp	14.25	-0.125
Panh Eastern	19.875	+0
Paramount	42.375	+0.125
Parker Drilling	5.625	-0.125
Parker Hannifin	43.125	+0.125
Penn Central	-	-
Penney(JC)	51.125	-1.125
Pennsyl Pwr Lt	22.125	-0.375
Pennzoil	48.625	-0.25
People's Energy	27.875	+0.125
Pepsico	36	-0.5
Perkin Elmer	29.125	+0.375
Petrie Stores	25.625	+1
Pfizer	63.75	-0.125
Phelps Dodge	56.5	-0.125
Philadel Elec	27.25	+0.125
Philip Morris	49.25	-0.75
Phillips Pet	32.5	-0.5
Pioneer Hi Bred	34.5	-0.8125
Pitney Bowes	39.125	-0.25
Policy Mgt Sys	32.125	+0.25
Potash Corp	25.875	-0.125
Potomac El Pwr	19.625	+0.375
Procter & Gamble	56.375	+0
Pub Svc Enterpr	27.75	+0
Pug Snd Pwr	18.125	-0.125
Quaker Oats	69.875	+0.375
Quanex Corp	20.125	-0.375
RJR Nabisco	5.75	-0.25
Ralston Purina	34.25	+0
Rank Organsn ADR	11.375	0
Raychem Corp	36.875	+0
Raytheon	62.25	-0.625
Reebok Ind	31.5	+0.375
Reynolds Reyn A	22.75	-0.25
Reynolds Metals	48.875	-0.625
Rite Aid Corp	20.125	+0.5
Roadway Services	71.25	+0.25
Rockwell Intl	35.625	-0.625
Rohm & Haas	60.875	-1.25
Rohr Industries	9.5	-0.25
Rouse	13.5	+0
Rowan	7.875	+0
Royal Dutch	106.875	+1.375
Rubbermaid	27.875	+0.25
Ruddick	18	-0.125
Russell Corp	29.875	+0.5
Ryder System	24.125	+0
Rymer Co	2	+0
SPS Technology	25	-0.625
Safeco Corp	55.125	+0
Safety-Kleen	18	+0
St Paul's Cos	77.625	+0.125
Salomon Inc	51.125	-0.125
San Diego Gas	20	-0.125
Santa Fe S Pacf	22.75	+0.25
Sara Lee Corp	21.375	+0.125
Scecorp	14	-0.125
Schering Plough	65.25	-0.625
Schlumberger	57.25	+0.625
Scientif Atlanta	37.25	+0.125
Scott Paper	47.75	+0.75
Scripps	26.375	-0.5
Seagate Tech	23.3125	+0.1875
Seagram	29.625	+0.25
Sears Roebuck	50.625	+0.375
Service Corp I	24.5	-0.625
Service Master	23.875	-0.125
Shared Medical	23	-0.25
Shell Trans	64.375	+0.75
Sherwin Wllms	31.25	+0.25
Shoney's Inc	15.875	-0.375
Sigma Aldrich	41.5	-0.75
Skyline Corp	17.75	-0.25
Smith Intl	18.125	+0.25
SmKline Bchm A	29	+0.25
Snap-On-Tools	38.125	-0.75
Sonat	28.5	+0
Sonocco Prods	20.25	+0.25
Sony Corp ADR	59	+0.75
Southdown	21.375	-1.125
Southern Co	18.5	-0.25
Sth N. Eng Tel	32.25	+0
Southw Airlines	27.875	+0.375
Southwestn Bell	41.125	-0.25
Spring Inds	30.5	-0.25
Sprint Corp	38	-0.25
Stand Brnds Pnt	1.75	-0.125
Standard Prods	27.5	+0.125
Stanley Works	38.75	-0.125
Storage Technol	31.125	+0.125
Stratus Comp	29.875	+0.125
Sun America	7.875	+0.125
Sun Company	28.125	+0.25
Sundstrand	47.125	+0.125
Sun Microsystems	20.875	-0.5
Suntrust	49.25	-0.25
Supervalu	32	+0
Syntex Corp	23.125	-0.125
Sysco Corp	25.875	-0.125
TJX Cos Inc	24.25	+0.875
TRW Inc	66.75	+0.125
Tambrands	35.625	+0.125
Tandem Comp	11.5	+0
Tandy Corp	37.375	-0.25
Telecom Corp	20.875	-0.125
Teledyne	18.125	-0.25
Temple Inland	48.875	-0.375
Tenneco	47.875	-0.75
Tesoro Pet	10.625	-0.5
Texaco	63.5	-0.625
Texas Instrmnts	80.25	+2.75
Texas Utilities	33	-0.375
Textron	56	+1.125
Thiokol	24.375	-0.5
Thomas & Betts	63.125	-0.375
Time Warner	38.75	-1.125
Times-Mirror	32.375	+0
Timken	32.75	+0.375
Torchmark	41.875	+0.375
Tosco Corp	29.25	+0
Total Pet N Am	14.875	-0.125
Toys R Us	35.5	+1.375
Transamerica	53.375	+0
Transco Energy	15.25	-0.25
Tribune	58.75	-0.375
TRINOVA Corp	35	+1.25
Triton Energy	32.75	-0.25
Tyco Labs	47.5	+0.875
Tyler	5.625	+0.375
UAL Corp	120.25	+1.125
USG Corp	23	-0.125
UST Inc	25.25	-0.5
USX Marathon	17.125	+0.125
USX-US Steel	34.125	-0.625
Unilever NV	81.5	+0.5
Union Camp	47.25	+0.25
Union Carbide	27	-1
Union Electric	33.625	+0
Union Pacific	59	+0.375
Unisys Corp	11	-0.125
USAIR Group	6.75	-0.125
USF&G Corp	12.25	-0.125
US Home	17.75	+0
US Life	38.5	+0.125
US Shoe	18.625	-0.25
US Surgical	19	+0.125
US Trust	51.75	+0.25
US West	40.125	+0
United Tech	66.375	+0.5
Unocal Corp	27.625	-0.25
Upjohn	32.125	+0.625
VF Corp	49.125	-0.375
Valero Energy	19.5	-0.25
Vulcan Materials	48.625	-0.25
Wachovia	33	+0.125
Walgreen	40.875	-0.25
Wal-Mart Stores	23.8	-0.25
Warner-Lambert	70.375	-0.75
Wash Gas Light	38	-0.625
Washington Post	232.5	-1.25
Waste Mgmnt Inc	27.375	-0.5
Watkins-Johnson	33	-0.125
Weis Markets	24.5	-0.125
Wells Fargo	158.875	+1.625
Wendy's Intl	17.375	-0.125
Western Publ	11.9375	-0.0625
Westinghouse El	13	+0
Westvaco	32.25	-0.875
Weyerhaeuser	41.625	+0.375
Whirlpool	53.625	+0.375
Whitman	15.25	-0.375
Williamette Ind	45.25	-0.25
Winn Dixie Stos	45.25	-0.25
Woolworth	15.75	+0.125
Worthington Ind	19.75	+0.875
Xerox	100.5	-0.625
Yellow Freight	18.8125	+0.4375
Zenith Electron	10.125	+0.375
Zero Co	12	-0.375
LONDON		
Allied - Lyons	578	-3
BAT Inds	409	+25
BP	385.5	-2.5
BT	382.5	+1.5
BTR	373	-2
Barclays	505	-3
Bass	518	+8
Boots	509.5	+2
British Airways	378	-106
British Gas	264.5	-4.5
Cable & Wire	435	-2
General Electric	301	-2.5
Grand Met	439	-2
Glaxo	536	+0
Guiness	477	+0
HSBC (75p shs)	726	+7
Hanson	254	+1
ICI	807	-3
Land Securities	645	-4
Lloyds Bank	536	-4.5
Marks & Spencer	391.5	-1
NatWest Bank	427	-1
Prudential	275.5	-0.96875
Reuters	459	+0
Sainsbury	398	-1.78125
Shell Transport	704	+0.53125
Unilever	1010	+4
Wellcome	653	+2.5625
PARIS		
Accor	684	-15
Air Liquide	772	-10
Alcatel Alsthom	611	-1
BSN	842	-16
BNP Cert Inv	218	-2
Canal	906	-10
Carrefour	1857	-32
Chargeurs	1401	-32
Club Med	419	-10
Cred Lyon (CI)	552	-25
Elf Aquitaine	410.2	+0.2
Euro Disney	31.1	-0.1
Eurotunnel	-	-
Hachette	118	-3
LVMH	867	-8
Lafarge Coppee	411	-11.4
Lyonn Eaux	571	-4
Michelin B	219.8	-2.9
Moulinex	140.8	+0.5
Paribas	393	-4.2
Pernod Ricard	378	-6.9
Peugeot	808	-13
Rhone Poulenc Cts	160	-1.5
Saint Gobain	650	-16
Suez (Fin de)	306	+4.6
Total B	310.7	-3.3
FRANKFURT		
Allianz AG	1890	+0
BASF	312	-1
Bayer	363.1	-1.9
Commerzbank	7	-0.1
Daimler-Benz	807.5	+8
Deutsche Bank	737	+4.5
Dresdner Bk	374.5	+0
Hoechst	338.5	-2
Lufthansa	187	+2.5
Mannesmann	436	+11.5
Mercedes Hld	-	-
Metallgesellschaft	229	+2
Porsche	785	-27
Siemens	687	+5.1
Volkswagen	484.5	+1.5

Source: CommStock Trading Ltd.

Gold, silver prices shoot up, other commodities expected to follow

LONDON (Reuter) – Precious metals prices raced ahead yesterday following an upward move on Comex silver which reflected a 100-plus points move on the CRB index and expectations that soy and corn prices would also rise.

Gold was fixed at $387.60 per ounce against $386.25 this morning and $385.40 on Friday. Dealers said there was little reason for the price to move on the market's fundamentals.

But prices moved after the inflation-heralding CRB Index was lifted by rises on cocoa and coffee futures with the expectation of a further push if soy and corn prices firmed on forecast continuing dry weather in the US Midwest growing areas.

Indications were that the Chicago futures markets would rise sharply on forecasts of continuing dry, hot weather in the Midwest where some centers were experiencing rainfall below 70 percent of normal.

Some commission house business and dealer covering helped push gold and silver prices up, dealers said.

In contrast to the surging CRB Index, US home building data for March and April was sharply lower than expectations.

By mid afternoon bullion was just under the day's high at $388.05 having broken out of range which held prices under $386 before New York opened.

Silver, having made no impression on $5.50 throughout the morning, nudged through to $5.61, against Europe's close Monday of $5.47, after Comex opened sharply higher

Even so, by recent standards a 12-cent range for silver from its $5.49 opening was fairly commonplace, dealers said.

Platinum also firmed on the basis of silver's rally, adding around $3.00 to a near unchanged start to $401.50. The Nymex futures firmed $2.60 quickly after silver's move.

Palladium however was less influenced but held its slightly firmer opening of $135.00/$136.00.

European markets recover from drops, but nervousness remains

LONDON (Reuter) – European stock markets mostly recovered from earlier steep falls yesterday, but analysts said the mood remained nervous in the face of further weakness in bond prices.

Bonds fell sharply on fears of renewed inflation and the view that interest rates would rise rather than fall.

Prices, however, ended above the day's lows.

German Bund futures fell some 60 basis points on two pieces of bad news for the market.

Bundesbank board member Otmar Issing unnerved investors by stressing the importance as a policy indicator of German money supply, which is running well outside Bundesbank targets.

German authorities made their second cancellation of a bond auction.

British long gilts (government bonds) dived by 1½ points as British money supply figures underlined strength in the country's economic recovery despite recent tax increases.

Stock markets mainly rallied after showing falls in the morning of more than one percent.

Traders said there was some buying by long-term institutional investors which supported the London market and led to short-covering by market makers.

"With bond markets weak, it's a brave man who would say we have seen the worst," said John Reynolds of NatWest Markets.

Volume in stock markets remained fairly low, with most action in futures pits where brokerage houses and investors can take short-term trading positions quickly and cheaply and where any rally would be sharp if operators rush to cover positions.

The FTSE Index of 100 leading British shares is now 16% below its high of 3,539.2 hit in February, just before the US Federal Reserve tightened credit policy to spark a sell-off in bond markets.

Some investment analysts say the stock market is cheap at these levels, given expected gains in company earnings and dividend payments as economic recovery continues.

But chronic weakness in bonds, which in some cases now offer a return equal to shares despite less notional risk, will continue to hold back share markets.

"Europe has been selling off because of the reassessment of the outlook for German interest rates," said Peter Lyon, analyst for economics and strategy at stockbrokers Smith New Court.

He said the resilience of economic recovery in Britain, despite recent tax increases, had surprised some people.

"Our best guess is that people are getting too worried about inflation and bond yields," he said.

Analysts generally believe British short-term interest rates have now reached their low at 5.25%.

But futures markets yesterday indicated rates at 6.3% by the end of the year and 8.4% by the end of 1995, which Lyon said was too high.

Customers crowd into a private Athens bank to buy high-yield three-month bonds yesterday. Private banks issued the bonds to beat three-month bonds issued by the government with 25.5 percent annual interest. (AP)

European bonds slump to new lows

LONDON (Reuter) – Inflation fears forced many European government bond futures to new contract lows yesterday but some analysts say this year's rise in yields could be nearing its end.

If yields stop rising buyers may be tempted back into a market that has suffered drastic price falls, partly caused by a series of US interest rates which began on February 4.

"The seven percent yield (on 10-year German government bonds) should hold. But I'm not saying it's the level at which you should get your grandmother to start buying bonds," said Kirit Shah, fixed income strategist at First Chicago in London.

Germany's benchmark 6.25% Treuhand issue due 2004 yielded 6.97% by midday. The June future contract was off 0.71 at 92.74.

"Seven percent yields look like medium-term value in the Bund market...and could be a level to encourage some buyers," agreed Keith Edmonds, chief analyst at IBJ International here.

He said this pointed to real yields of around 4.0%, given that west German inflation was an annual 2.9%.

But "any good news is largely being ignored by the market," he added, referring to the Bundesbank announcement that a bond issue planned for the first 10 days of June would not take place because of the government's good cash position.

News of less bond supply should be positive for Bunds, said Shah. "But it's not good for psychological reasons," he added.

Bond market dealers were skeptical about the reasoning given by the government for scrapping the issue, the second time in a week that an issue has been withdrawn.

"The market interpreted the scrapping of the bond differently," one trader said. "There is simply no demand at the moment. The banks' bond portfolios are full and they would not have been prepared to take on any more paper."

In contrast, French and Italian bond auctions will go ahead as expected.

Italy was auctioning 3.5 trillion lire ($2.20 billion) of 10-year and 30-year bonds yesterday, while France will offer up to 21 billion francs ($3.74 billion) of 10 and 30-year OATs tomorrow.

"The French auction...will be a very testing one for the market," said Edmonds at IBJ. While Italian government bonds appear to be weathering this recent bond market storm both Shah and Edmonds expect the French market to fall further.

From a fundamental viewpoint, Edmonds noted continental European bond markets could find some reassurance from continuing signs that inflationary pressures were subdued.

"But in the UK investors are worried about the traditional (economic) cycle...(and expecting) to see inflation pick up," said Edmonds.

Sales of new US homes declined in April after March rise

WASHINGTON (Reuter) – Sales of new homes turned lower in April after rising in March, the Commerce Department said yesterday, suggesting that higher interest rates are discouraging some buyers.

Sales fell by 6.8% last month to a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 683,000 units after a revised 6.4% rise in March.

Previously, the department said sales increased 11.1% in March to a rate of 739,000.

The April showing was worse than Wall Street economists had predicted, with most seeing sales at an annual rate of 723,000 units.

Last week, the National Realtors Association said sales of existing homes rose moderately in April, by 1.2% to a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 4.12 million.

The industry group said some buyers apparently were buying out of fear interest rates will soon put monthly payments beyond their reach, which could soon cause sales to wane.

New home buyers, however, appeared to be already turning away as higher interest rates sent out alarms.

Mortgage rates bottomed out last October at just under 7% and have risen sharply since then.

The Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corp. said average rates for a 30-year mortgage loan fell slightly to 8.53% last week from 8.56% a week earlier.

US consumer spending drops in April

WASHINGTON (Reuter) – Consumer spending turned lower in April despite a continued rise in incomes, the US Commerce Department said yesterday, suggesting that Americans may be slowing their consumption binge.

Spending fell 0.1 percent to a seasonally adjusted annual rate of $4.60 trillion, as incomes from wages, salaries, and all other sources rose 0.4% to a rate of $5.66t.

Wall Street economists had forecast that incomes would rise by 0.4% in April and that spending would increase by 0.1%.

Gains in personal income, which includes wages and salaries as well as income from sources such as dividends, interest, and businesses, are essential for funding consumer purchases, which fuel two-thirds of national economic activity.

Last week, the National Association of Business Economists forecast that the economy would grow at its strongest quarterly pace of the year during April-June, before tapering off moderately in the second half.

Commerce has reported that total goods and services output, measured by the gross domestic product, grew at a stronger 3% annual rate in the first three months of 1994 instead of the 2.6% rate estimated a month earlier.

That represented a moderation from the sizzling 7% expansion rate in the final quarter of last year, but showed the economy rebounded at the beginning of the second quarter from harsh winter weather, analysts said.

The department said personal savings in April fell to an annual rate of $173.8b. from $177.7b. in March.

The savings rate, which shows savings as a percentage of disposable income and is widely watched by economists, fell to 3.5% in April from 3.6% in March. That meant Americans were saving 3.5 cents out of each dollar they earned after taxes last month, after saving 3.6 cents in March.

Private-sector wages and salaries rose to an annual rate of $2.62t. from $2.61t. in March.

World oil prices continuing to rise

STAVANGER, Norway, (Reuter) – World oil prices should continue rising gently this year after hitting a five-year low in February, according to delegates at the World Petroleum Congress being held in this Western Norwegian oil town.

Increasing global demand for oil, especially from energy-hungry Asia, combined with responsible behavior from the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) backs this feeling that oil prices are on their way back up.

"There's a lot of light at the end of the tunnel. It's a bank vault door that's opening," International Energy Agency (IEA) deputy director John Ferriter told reporters.

After hitting $13 per barrel in February, the lowest point in five years, the benchmark North Sea Brent price has rebounded to over $16. Brent oil for July loading was traded at $16.32 yesterday, down slightly from Friday.

A decision by OPEC states in March to freeze their combined output at 24.52 million barrels per day (bpd) is seen as having underpinned the firmness in prices.

OPEC Secretary General Subroto told delegates in Stavanger that he expected no change to the production quotas when the organization meets in two weeks, even though world demand for oil is rising considerably.

Analysts, looking at demand growth projections to the turn of the century, also paint a picture of recovering oil prices.

Oil company executives have been cautiously optimistic at the Stavanger meeting, citing research that says demand for oil will grow by around one million bpd every year until the end of the century.

British Petroleum (BP) Chief Economist Peter Davies told the congress the rapidly growing economies of east Asia were hungry for oil to power their expansion plans.

He said China, a potentially huge consumer of external oil supplies, had probably become a net oil importer recently as industrial expansion outstrips domestic energy production.

Davies said OPEC's slice of world oil production looked set to rise because of flagging output in the United States, North Sea production that is set to peak in a few years and continuing chaos in Russia.

The former Soviet Union was the world's largest oil producer, but output has been slashed because of lack of investment and political uncertainty.

Subroto presented a scenario for OPEC oil demand to congress delegates that envisaged a near doubling of crude oil production from the 12 member states over the next 25 years to around 50 million bpd.

Analysts say such predictions are somewhat fanciful, given the number of imponderables that can affect oil production and prices.

However many industry experts agree that OPEC's influence will strengthen provided it can avoid internal rifts that have severely damaged its credibility in the past.

Mediobanca's position seen secure despite probe

ANALYSIS

CRISPIAN BALMER

MILAN (Reuter) – All-powerful Mediobanca SpA will remain the lynchpin of Italian business life, despite being dragged into investigations surrounding the dramatic collapse of the Ferruzzi empire, analysts said.

Four senior executives at the bank, including its 86-year-old honorary president, Enrico Cuccia, were placed under official inquiry on Monday by magistrates probing last year's exposure of massive losses at the foods-to-chemicals group.

Newspapers have leapt to the defense of the secretive merchant bank, while investors showed their confidence in the company's future by pushing its share price up.

"Mediobanca have such an entrenched position in the market that until some real competition emerges, these investigations are not likely to make much difference," said Enrico Ponzone, chief Italian equity analyst with Kleinwort Benson.

Investors piled out of the stock last week as rumors spread of the inquiry. But on Tuesday, the share had gained almost one percent to 15,820 lire in afternoon trade.

"This scandal should have been largely discounted by now," one Milan-based analyst said, declining to be named. "Remember this is only an investigation, so there's still a long way to go before you can start thinking about any trials," he added.

Virtually every major transaction involving Italy's big companies is coordinated by Mediobanca, whose clients include carmaker Fiat, tire manufacturer Pirelli and Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi's Fininvest media empire.

Last June the bank stepped in to save Ferruzzi, Italy's second largest private company, from impending bankruptcy, launching the biggest rescue plan in Italian corporate history.

But Ferruzzi's former chief executive Carlo Sama has said Mediobanca knew of undeclared losses totaling 435 billion lire ($270 million) two months before assuming control of the group, and then waited almost a month before making them public.

However newspapers yesterday questioned this charge.

"It is hard to understand how a consultant can become an accomplice simply by accepting the task of sorting out (the firm's) problems," *Corriere della Sera* said in an editorial.

La Stampa said magistrates might have being naive in issuing the inquiry order, or else: "They are playing a heavy game on the political stage where an official investigation represents a ferocious attack against a key institution for our economy."

Mediobanca has come under heavy attack in recent months for thwarting government plans to create a diffused shareholder base in privatized firms, by taking effective control of two former state banks, Banca Commerciale Italiana and Credito Italiano, at their recent sell-offs.

Romano Prodi, chairman of state holding Istituto per la Ricostruzione Industriale, which sold the banks, accused Cuccia of being "a threat to prosperity, liberty and democracy."

But Marco Nascimbeni, analyst with Carnegie International, did not see the current investigations hampering the bank. The only fear he said, was if disgruntled investors pushed down the share price and jeopardized a planned rights issue.

Mediobanca is looking to raise between 1.5-1.9 trillion lire ($950 million-$1,187 billion) through the issue of warrants and some 100 million new shares in June. The bank said in April the new stock would not be offered for less than 15,000 lire.

At the time its share price was near to 19,000 lire, now it is perilously close to the rights issue floor.

But Kleinwort's Ponzone did not see any great reason to worry. "I've never seen a Mediobanca rights issue fail, and don't expect this one to. The share price will pick up in June and all should be well," he predicted.

Portable monitors help investors get a grip on the markets

NEW YORK – Stan Weinstein, who publishes an investor newsletter in Florida, succumbed to the lure of the hand-held stock monitor early. He was soon so dangerously addicted it took every fiber of resolution to do what he had to do: get rid of it.

"I would look at it when I was at the beach, or waiting for a red light," he said. "I decided it was just too much."

Fortunately for the small but growing stocks-at-your-fingertips-anywhere-anytime-night-or-day industry, few others drawn to the little devices have had the inclination or intestinal fortitude to quit cold turkey.

What was once a curiosity is now spreading its tentacles into every corner of the financial world, making the lives of some traders even more happily one-dimensional than they were before.

At a time of dizzying ups and downs in the stock and bond markets, with fortunes won and lost in heavily leveraged investments, increasing numbers of people feel they must never be out of touch with the latest turns of the most obscure indexes.

Manny Grossman, who owns an import business near Chicago, was enraptured with the idea of instant stock market information when he ordered his QuoTrek monitor from the California-based Data Broadcasting Corp. two years ago. That, he said, "was the start of a love affair," with tete-a-tetes between man and small machine over coffee in the morning and at other moments throughout the day.

Christopher R. Castroviejo, a hedge fund partner who puts his little Metriplex monitor beside his dessert spoon while lunching at fine Manhattan restaurants, confesses he consults it even when he's getting out of bed to go to the bathroom at 3 a.m. "Something might be happening on the Tokyo market," he said.

Daring amateurs such as Glenn J. Perry, a patent attorney in Washington, have embraced the monitors as a way to protect themselves from the vicissitudes of trading in volatile instruments such as index options. "This is not for the faint of heart," Perry said. Without a monitor with him at all times, he said, it would be "a crap shoot in the dark."

Bryant Hilton, communications coordinator for the Personal Communication Industry Association, said the number of alphanumeric pagers capable of carrying stock information has jumped from 3.4 million in 1985 to 19 million today. About 1.3 million of them are thought by the PCIA to be feeding the market information fixations of brokers, money managers and many dedicated amateur investors across the country.

Anne Armento, director of marketing for Data Broadcast Corp. (DBC) in San Mateo, Ca., said demand for her service grew 18 percent in just the first quarter of this year as bond traders, hedge fund managers, stock analysts and even retired bankers tending their pensions sought to protect themselves from the markets' volatility.

"We get a lot of interest when there is a lot of activity," Armento said, "and there is a lot of activity now."

Just what all this does to the nation's table manners and general social awkwardness is unclear. The several companies promoting hand-held stock monitors say they have no desire to ruin anyone's dinner party, but say they must serve their customers in an era of triumphant capitalism and worldwide, 24-hour markets.

Some systems use digital broadcasting facilities. Others use FM side bands generated by radio stations. Many of the devices can be set to vibrate, rather than beep or ring, when a favorite stock has just dipped into financially calamitous territory, so that the user can excuse himself or herself to call a broker without causing a scene. "You don't want to be so crass as to put it right on the table," said Steven Stutman, president of Metriplex Inc. of Cambridge, Ma., which serves 12 major metropolitan areas and is shooting for many more.

Stutman said Metriplex customers are almost entirely professional investors and money managers, while Armento at DBC finds that "we do have a lot of people who are retired and like to keep track of their investments."

Wynn Loewenthal, 67, acquired a monitor 10 years ago when he was still working as an entertainment industry publicist in New York.

He had lost $500 when an ice cream company's stock plummeted while he was out to lunch. He resolved not to let that happen again.

The paging device has become much more sophisticated in the years since, Loewenthal said, "and I would never be without this thing." Now retired, he has the device with him whether "I'm on the bus, sitting in the park or having lunch in a restaurant."

Castroviejo confesses a similar affection for his Metriplex, although he is concerned about misunderstandings it may create. "I hear these things beep sometimes in restaurants and I know a lot of people think it means you're a drug dealer," he said. (The Washington Post)

Argentina defeats Israel 3-0

DEREK FATTAL

SOME 40,000 soccer fans packed the Ramat Gan National Stadium last night to witness two-time world champions Argentina beat Israel 3-0.

Argentina, with the great Diego Maradona at the helm, took the lead midway through a highly competitive first half, through Gabriel Batistuta. Then, in the second half, they completely overwhelmed the Israelis as Batistuta increased the lead and fellow striker Claudio Caniggia knocked in a third.

The atmosphere in the stadium took on a South American air as thousands of Argentinian fans cheered on their team with their banners draped over the length of the touchline barrier.

The Israelis opened the game confidently with Reuven Atar and Ronnen Harazi linking well down the left side and Tal Banin in support.

Atar, in particular, had a superb first period taking on and beating defenders and sending incisive passes into the Argentinian area. In the opening 20 minutes, Shlomo Scharf's men clearly had the advantage with Harazi surging through the defense in the seventh and 14th minutes.

Nevertheless, the danger signs were evident as Caniggia forced Bonnie Ginsburg to rush off his line and smother the ball at his feet with just eight minutes played.

The tide began to turn in the 22nd minute when Maradona found Batistuta with what looked to be an innocuous enough pass. Batistuta rose above the home defense and whipped a fierce header goalwards with Ginsburg beaten. The ball crashed against the bottom of the upright then bounced harmlessly away from the line for the defenders to clear.

Israel's fortune were short-lived when five minutes later, the lanky Fernando Redondo unleashed a powerful shot which brought a flying save from Ginsburg. The ball carried loose to Batistuta who thundered it back into the roof of the goal.

The Israelis kept their composure, driven forward by Tal Banin who helped Ronnie Rosenthal, then Harazi produce scares for the Argentinian 'keeper. Just before the interval, Eyal Berkowitz who was having a relatively mediocre game, looked to have beaten the defense but was dispossessed just before he could release a shot.

After halftime, there were four substitutions in the home line-up. Rafi Cohen was brought on for Ginsburg, while Avi Nimni, Haim Revivo and Eli Ohana replaced Ronni Levy, Atar and Rosenthal.

While Scharf's intention of blooding as many of his young stars in advance of the European Nations qualifiers is understandable, the Israelis paid for the mass change of the guard within three minutes of the resumption. Caniggia spurted through the center and released Batistuta who beat the startled Cohen for the Argentinians' second goal.

From this point on, the Israelis were unable to recover. In the 53rd minute, right back Jose Charmot streamed down the left wing leaving the defenders for dust. He found Caniggia completely deserted in the center of the Israeli area by Nir Klinger and Caniggia slotted to finish the move in exemplary fashion.

Before the match, Maccabi Haifa midfielder Eyal Berkowitz was crowned Israel's footballer of the year by President Ezer Weizman.

Argentina's Gabriel Batistuta (c) and Israel's Alon Harazi contest a loose ball as Diego Maradona (partially hidden) looks on. (Hanoch Guthmann)

Courier ends Sampras's Grand Slam dream

PARIS (AP) – Jim Courier dashed arch-rival Pete Sampras's dream of a fourth straight Grand Slam title, outplaying the world No. 1 in four sets yesterday in the French Open quarter-finals.

Courier, hoping to regain the crown he won in 1991 and 1992, will seek revenge in Friday's semifinals against Sergi Bruguera, who dethroned him in last year's final. The sixth-seeded Spaniard, yet to lose a set in five matches here, ousted No. 4 Andrei Medvedev of Ukraine, 6-3, 6-2, 7-5.

Courier had lost 10 of 12 matches to Sampras, including the last four in a row. But this was their first clash on clay, and the No. 7 seed showed why he likes the surface with a relentless 6-4, 5-7, 6-4, 6-4 victory.

"I'm kind of down and disappointed," Sampras said. "To win four in a row would have been something that would have been written about for years."

At the net after match point, Courier said he apologized to the top seed for breaking the Grand Slam streak.

"You go out there and play the best you can," Courier said, speaking French to a local TV network. "That's life."

In the women's quarter-finals, top-seeded Steffi Graf and record-setting Mary Pierce each won decisively to set up a much-anticipated semifinal showdown tomorrow.

Pierce, the power-hitting No. 12 seed, routed Austrian Petra Ritter 6-0, 6-2 to reach a Grand Slam semifinal for the first time. In her five matches so far, Pierce has lost only six games, the best showing ever in the tournament.

Graf overcame 36th-ranked Ines Gorrochategui of Argentina, 6-4, 6-1. She has reached at least the semifinals in every French Open since 1987, when she won the first of her three titles.

In the other semifinal matches two Spaniards, No. 2 Arantxa Sanchez Vicario and No. 3 Conchita Martinez. Sanchez Vicario beat Julie Halard of France, 6-1, 7-6 (8-6) and Martinez rallied to beat 16th-seeded Sabine Hack of Germany, 2-6, 6-0, 6-2.

Courier played confidently in the first set while Sampras looked uneasy, changing rackets repeatedly and missing close to half his first serves.

In the second set, Sampras gained confidence by saving two break points that would have given Courier a 4-1 lead. Sampras broke service for the first time in the next game when Courier double-faulted and suddenly took command.

The third set stayed on serve until the crucial ninth game, when Courier broke Sampras for a 5-4 lead.

The fourth set turned on the seventh game, with Sampras serving to go up 4-3. Instead, after saving three break points, he hit a forehand long to go down 3-4. Courier held serve in the next game at love en route to closing out the 3 hour, 28-minute match.

The loss ended Sampras's winning streak of 25 Grand Slam matches. It was the third straight year he has lost in the French Open quarter-finals.

Against Ritter, Pierce won the first seven games before the 103rd-ranked Austrian finally held serve. Pierce made only four unforced errors and hit 25 outright winners, compared to three for Ritter.

Pacers even Eastern Finals

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) – The Indiana Pacers won again at home Monday. Now comes the challenge of winning at New York.

Reggie Miller played the decisive role in the fourth quarter as the Pacers evened the Eastern Conference finals 2-2 with an 83-77 victory. But the Pacers still must win at Madison Square Garden to advance to the NBA Finals for the first time, and their first of two chances comes tonight in Game 5.

It's a daunting task for the Pacers, because the Knicks, just 1-6 on the road in the playoffs, are 8-0 at home.

The Pacers stayed perfect at Market Square Arena as Miller scored 31 points. Indiana had won its first five home playoff games by at least 10 points and only a fourth-quarter rally by the Knicks made it close Monday.

Miller, who had 13 points in the fourth quarter, played the superstar role down the stretch with 10 points and an assist in the decisive 12-2 burst that turned a two-point deficit into an 80-72 lead with 2:20 left.

The Pacers led by as many as 13 points in the third quarter and 64-55 with 11:38 left before the Knicks rallied to take the lead, 72-70, with a 15-4 burst capped by Hubert Davis' 3-pointer with 6:19 left.

Then Miller took over with a tying jumper, a perfect pass to Rik Smits for a go-ahead basket, another jumper and then six straight free throws.

The Knicks closed to 80-77 with 30 seconds left on a layup by John Starks after a bad inbounds pass by Indiana, and they got the ball back when Derrick McKey missed two free throws two seconds later.

But Davis fumbled a pass out of bounds with 6.6 seconds left, ending the Knicks' final hope.

Patrick Ewing, coming off a one-point performance in Game 3, scored 25 for the Knicks, who shot 37.7 percent from the field and turned the ball over 26 times. Smits finished with 15 points for Indiana and Starks scored 14 for New York.

Playoffs on Cable TV

Sports Channel 5 will broadcast Game 5 of the Western Conference Final between Utah and Houston at 21:00 tonight (repeat at 23:45).

NBA Playoff Glance

Finals (Best of 7)

EASTERN CONFERENCE
Indiana 83, New York 77
New York-Indiana series tied 2-2
WESTERN CONFERENCE
Houston leads Utah 3-1
Last night's scheduled game:
Utah at Houston
Today:
Indiana at New York

South Africa A beats England

KIMBERLEY, SA (AP) – England lost for the fourth time in five matches of its South African tour, falling 19-16 yesterday to a South African A side in the final tune-up before the first test.

Flyhalf Joel Stransky led the South African side, which included at least four players expected to play in the first test, with 14 points on a try, two penalties and a drop goal, while Christiaan Scholtz scored the other try for the home side.

Fullback Jonathan Callard, who flew in from England this week as an injury replacement, kicked three penalties and converted the lone English try by right wing Damien Hopley.

England led 10-3 at the half, but South Africa A began taking advantage of its position in the second half and Stransky capitalized on chances provided by the visitors.

There is one more exhibition and two tests remaining on the tour, which has been disastrous so far for England. In addition to the loss Tuesday, England has been beaten by three provincial sides, including Transvaal and Natal, considered the top clubs in the country. The only English victory was over a weak Western Transvaal provincial side.

The tour is England's first to South Africa in a decade.

ENGLAND: Tries: Damien Hopley; Conversions: Jonathan Callard; Penalties: Callard 3.
SOUTH AFRICAN A: Tries: Joel Stransky, Christiaan Scholtz; Penalties: Stransky 2; Drop Goals: Stransky.

Gullit walks out on Dutch team

NOORDWIJK (AP) – Ruud Gullit has had enough of the Netherlands national team and says he won't play in this summer's World Cup.

Gullit said Monday during a news conference here that he won't give a reason for his departure until after the World Cup. With Gullit sitting next to him, Dutch coach Dick Advocaat said he regretted the decision and didn't know what was behind it.

"Everybody has to make decisions, but I think he has chosen a bad time to do it," teammate Ronald Koeman said. "He's important, but we must go on."

Gullit, 31, returned to his home in Italy on Monday with Marco Van Basten, his teammate on the national team and AC Milan, who is missing the World Cup because of an ankle injury.

Gullit had returned to the national team Friday after a 13-month absence and played in a 3-1 victory over Scotland. He hadn't played for the Netherlands since April 1993, because of disagreements with Advocaat but the two patched up their differences this spring.

Gullit played the second half Friday, galvanizing the Dutch side into its best form in months, and set up Bryan Roy's opening goal.

After the match, Gullit criticized the attacking Dutch strategy, saying the team would have to play more defensively in the World Cup. Advocaat responded by saying that he, not Gullit, was responsible for tactical decisions.

Gullit has played 65 games for the Dutch national team and was captain of the team in 1988 when it won the European Championship. He made his international debut in 1981.

He scored 15 goals this season for Sampdoria of Genoa, then returned to AC Milan, the team he played for from 1987 to last year.

American wins SA Ultra Marathon

PIETERMARITZBURG, SA (AP) – American Alberto Salazar started fast, almost too fast, but held on yesterday to win South Africa's premier road race, the Comrades Marathon, in 5 hours, 38 minutes and 39 seconds.

The 35-year-old former world marathon record holder won a major race for the first time in at least a decade and said afterward he almost quit because the pain was so great in the second half of the grueling ultra marathon.

"I must admit I thought about stopping in the final 20 kilometers (12 miles) and at one stage I even walked a couple of steps," Salazar said.

He blistered the first half of the 86.7km (52-mile) race in a record 2:44 to take a one-minute lead on the uphill route from Durban to Pietermaritzburg in eastern South Africa.

When trouble hit in the second half, Salazar said, he tried to pace himself to hold on.

Salazar became only the fourth runner to better 5 hours, 40 minutes on the uphill course. The race, first run in 1921, switches each year between the uphill Durban-Pietermaritzburg route and the downhill Pietermaritzburg-Durban route.

Second place went to South African Nic Bester, one of the three to previously better 5:40 uphill, who sprinted in at 5:42.52. Other foreign runners in the top 10 were Peter Camenzind of Switzerland in fourth, 1993 Comrades winner Charly Doll of Germany in sixth and Dennis Gack of France in ninth.

Russian Valentina Liakhova took the lead at the 20-kilometer mark to easily win the women's competition in 6:41.23, more than four minutes ahead of compatriot Valentina Shatyaeva's 6:45.49. Hungarian Marta Vass was third in 6:51.04.

More than 12,000 runners took part in yesterday's race, the latest edition of an event which was originally held to honor South African soldiers who were killed in World War I.

Astros put 'Wild Thing' on waivers

HOUSTON (AP) – "Wild Thing" is washed up with the Houston Astros.

Mitch Williams, who recently said he thought the Astros would release him, was right. He was put on waivers yesterday.

Williams' stay with the Astros was a brief one. He was traded to Houston last December for pitchers Doug Jones and Jeff Juden, a deal that the Philadelphia Phillies said they made for his own good after Williams gave up a World Series-ending home run to Toronto's Joe Carter.

Unfortunately for Williams, who saved 43 games for the Phillies last year, he lived up to his reputation as "Wild Thing" for Houston.

Williams is 1-4 with six saves – and two blown chances – and a 7.65 ERA. He has given up 21 hits and walked 24 in 20 innings.

Reds 7, Expos 3

Kevin Mitchell homered twice, going 3-for-4 with three RBIs and three runs scored, and Jose Rijo notched his 100th career win for host Cincinnati. Mitchell and Reggie Sanders hit back-to-back homers in the fourth inning. Mitchell now has 14 homers this season.

MONDAY'S NL RESULTS:
Houston 4, Florida 3
Colorado 12, New York 2
Chicago 3, Philadelphia 0
Atlanta 4, San Francisco 3 (11)
Cincinnati 7, Montreal 3
St. Louis 6, Los Angeles 5
San Diego 10, Pittsburgh 2
MONDAY'S AL RESULTS:
Boston 6, Kansas City 5 (10)
Seattle 12, Minnesota 0
Texas 5, Milwaukee 4
Chicago 7, New York 2
Cleveland 10, California 2
Oakland 6, Toronto 2
Detroit 5, Baltimore 3 (11)

NATIONAL LEAGUE

East Division

	W	L	Pct.	GB
Atlanta	30	18	.625	–
Montreal	28	21	.571	2½
New York	25	24	.510	5½
Florida	24	26	.480	7
Philadelphia	23	27	.460	8

Central Division

	W	L	Pct.	GB
Cincinnati	28	22	.560	–
Houston	28	22	.560	–
St. Louis	25	23	.521	2
Chicago	22	26	.458	5
Pittsburgh	21	27	.438	6

West Division

	W	L	Pct.	GB
Los Angeles	28	23	.549	–
San Francisco	25	26	.490	3
Colorado	22	27	.449	5
San Diego	17	34	.333	11

AMERICAN LEAGUE

Red Sox 6, Royals 5

Damon Berryhill had a decisive double in the bottom of the 10th inning for Boston, which tied the game with two homers in the eighth.

With one out in the 10th, Scott Cooper and Andy Tomberlin singled before Berryhill reached the leftfield wall against Hipolito Pichardo (0-2). Ken Ryan (1-0) pitched two innings for the win.

Mike Greenwell and Tomberlin hit solo homers in the eighth as the Red Sox rallied to tie it at 5.

AMERICAN LEAGUE

East Division

	W	L	Pct.	GB
New York	32	15	.681	–
Boston	30	18	.625	2½
Baltimore	27	20	.574	5
Toronto	24	25	.490	9
Detroit	22	25	.468	10

Central Division

	W	L	Pct.	GB
Chicago	29	18	.617	–
Cleveland	26	21	.553	3
Kansas City	24	24	.500	5½
Minnesota	24	24	.500	5½
Milwaukee	20	29	.408	10

West Division

	W	L	Pct.	GB
Texas	22	26	.458	–
California	23	29	.442	1
Seattle	21	28	.429	1½
Oakland	14	36	.280	9

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ENGLISH TRANSLATORS needed for accounting and economics text. Please call Tel. 03-5101420 Ziva.

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DWELLINGS

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SALES

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OFFICE STAFF

SECRETARY from 15:00-19:00, office in Herzliya Industrial area. ☎ 09-561669.

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HONEST and responsible woman for housekeeping, live-in, minimum 1 year. ☎ 03-299345, 09-573888.

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FOR SALE

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VEHICLES

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ABROAD

DWELLINGS

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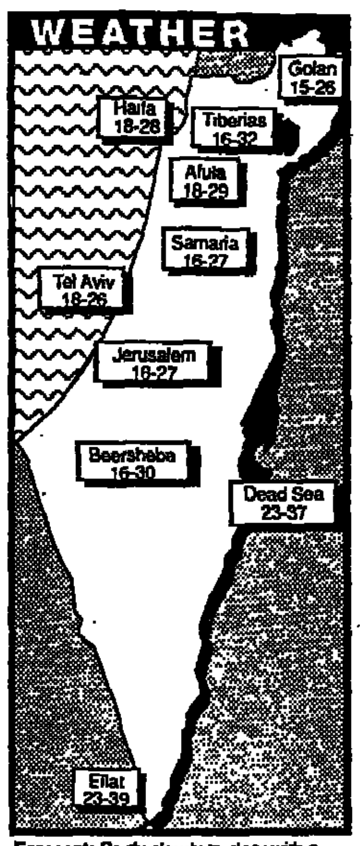
WEATHER



Forecast: Partly cloudy to clear with a slight drop in temperature.

AROUND THE WORLD

	LOW C	LOW F	HIGH C	HIGH F	
Amsterdam	09	48	20	68	clear
Berlin	05	41	17	63	cloudy
Buenos Aires	08	46	13	55	rain
Cairo	20	68	33	91	clear
Chicago	21	70	32	90	cloudy
Copenhagen	07	45	16	61	rain
Frankfurt	04	39	17	63	clear
Geneva	11	52	23	73	cloudy
Helsinki	03	37	12	54	cloudy
Hong Kong	25	77	26	79	rain
Jo'burg	02	36	19	66	clear
Lisbon	11	52	25	77	clear
London	09	48	21	70	clear
Los Angeles	15	59	24	75	clear
Madrid	17	63	32	90	pcloudy
Montreal	16	61	23	73	clear
Moscow	09	48	17	63	cloudy
New York	17	63	28	83	rain
Paris	05	41	24	75	clear
Rome	14	57	27	81	clear
Stockholm	07	45	15	59	cloudy
Sydney	11	52	17	63	rain
Tokyo	20	68	26	79	cloudy

WHERE TO GO

Notices in this feature are charged at NIS23.70 per line, including VAT. Insertion every day of the month costs NIS468.00 per line, including VAT, per month.

JERUSALEM
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HEBREW UNIVERSITY. Tours of the Mount Scopus campus, in English, daily Sun.-Thur., 11 a.m. from Bronfman Reception Centre, Sherman Administration Bldg. Buses 4a, 9, 23, 26, 28. For info, call 882819.
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TEL AVIV
Museums
TEL AVIV MUSEUM OF ART. The Story of Masada◇Alessi - For the Sake of Use◇Photography at the Bauhaus-◇Weissenhofsiedlung, a model neighborhood◇ David Reeb: Paintings 1982-94◇Tel Aviv - Temporary Documentation, the visual signs of Tel Avivian culture◇16th-19th Cent. European Art◇Impressionism, Post-Impressionism◇Jewish Artists in Europe between the Wars◇Moshe and Sara Mayer Coll.◇Sculpture◇20th Cent. Modern Masters - Mizne-Blumental Coll.◇Video: Bill Viola, The Reflecing Pool (collected works). Hours: Weekdays 10:00 a.m.-6 p.m. Tue., 10 a.m.-10 p.m. Fri., Sat., 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. **Education Center,** Tel. 6919155/6/7.
ORT. To visit our technological High Schools, call Jerusalem 513141; Tel Aviv 5203222, 5203293; Netanya 823744.
NA'AMAT (P.W.). Visit our projects: Tel Aviv, 6910791; Jerusalem, 244878.

HAIFA
WHAT'S ON IN HAIFA, dial 04-374253.

GENERAL ASSISTANCE

EMERGENCY PHARMACIES
Jerusalem: Hagidem Clinic, 3 Hagidem, 254173/8; Balsam, Salah e-Din, 272315; Shuafat, Shuafat Road, 810108: Dar Aldawa, Herod's Gate, 282058.
Tel Aviv: Benny, 174 Dizengoff, 5222386; Afarsemon, 110 Yehuda Halevi, 5613010. Till 3 a.m. Thursday: Ben-Yehuda, 142 Ben-Yehuda, 5223535. Till midnight: Superpharm Ramat Aviv, 40 Einstein, 6413730.
Ra'anana-Kfar Sava: Kupat Holim Clalit, 8 Harashut, Hod Hasharon, 981175.
Netanya: Porat, 76 Petah Tikva, 340967.
Krayot area: Harman, 4 Simtat Modi'in, Kiryat Motzkin, 7077703.
Haifa: Herzliya, 1 Herzliya, 676284.
Herzliya: Clal Pharm, Beit Merkazim, 6 Maskit (cnr. Sderot Hagalim), Herzliya Pituah, 558472, 558407. Open 9 a.m. to midnight.
Upper Nazareth: Clal Pharm, Lev Ha'ir Mall, 570468. Open 9 a.m. to 10 p.m.

DUTY HOSPITALS
Jerusalem: Hadassah Ein Kerem (internal, surgery, obstetrics, ophthalmology, ENT); Hadassah Mt. Scopus (orthopedics); Shaare Zedek (pediatrics). In case of heart attack, attempted resuscitation, snake bite or scorpion sting, go immediately to nearest hospital.
Tel Aviv: Tel Aviv Medical Center (pediatrics, internal, surgery).
Netanya: Laniado.

POLICE 100
FIRST AID 101
Magen David Adom
In emergencies dial 101 (Hebrew) or 911 (English) in most parts of the country. In addition:

Ashdod* 551333	Karmiel* 986555
Ashkelon 551332	Kfar Sava* 03-9311111
Bat Yam* 5511111	Kiron 5311111
Beersheba* 274767	K. Shmona* 944334
Beit Shemesh 523133	Nahariya* 912333
Dan Region* 5793333	Netanya* 623333
Eilat* 372333	Petah Tikva* 9311111
Hadera* 09-623333	Rehovot* 451333
Haifa* 512233	Rishon* 9642333
Hatzor* 920333	Safed 920333
Holon* 5511111	Tel Aviv* 5460111
Jerusalem* 523133	Tiberias* 790111

* Mobile Intensive Care Unit (MICU) service in the area, around the clock.
Medical help for tourists (in English) 177-022-9110
Eran – Emotional First Aid. Jerusalem 610303, Tel Aviv 5461111 (children/youth 6961113), Haifa 672222, Beersheba 281128, Netanya 625110, Karmiel 9988410, Kfar Sava 974555, Hadera 346789.
Rape Crisis Center (24 hours), Tel Aviv 5234819, 5449191 (men), Jerusalem 514455, Haifa 660111, Eilat 31977.
The National Poison Control Center at Rambam Hospital 04-325747, for emergency calls 24 hours a day, for information in case of poisoning.
Emergency dental clinic (24 hours) 02-632303.

FIRE 102
FLIGHTS
24 Hours Flight Information Service: Arrivals only, 03-9731111 (Hebrew), 03-9731122 (English)

CRITIC'S CHOICE

ISRAEL FESTIVAL
HELEN KAYE

STRAVINSKY'S *Rite of Spring* unleashed a caterwaul of booing when it premiered in Paris in 1913. Since then it's become a dance company staple. Canadian choreographer Marie Chouinard and her company perform her interpretation of the work. Tonight at Sherover at 9.

LECTURE
HELEN KAYE

"SCENOGRAPHY as a Dramatic Necessity" is the title of a lecture by Joseph Svoboda, a giant of Czech theater and altogether one of this century's foremost theatrical innovators, especially in the marriage of live theater and the electronic media. He's the founder and head of the theater company Laterna Magika, and the creator of *Odysseus*, currently at the Israel Festival. Today at the Jerusalem International Convention Center (Binyenei Ha'uma), at 3. (English)

Michael Keaton (right) and Randy Quaid star in 'The Paper' as newspapermen who are hot on a story that could make a difference – if they can meet their deadline for the morning edition. (Andy Schwartz)

MUSIC
MICHAEL AJZENSTADT

VIOLINIST Pinchas Zukerman teaches some young string players at the Ilona Feher Music Center in Holon. The classes are open to the public and they take place Friday (9:30-1:30 and 2:30-5:30), and next week Sunday through Friday except Tuesday. Times vary daily.

The jazz summer series at the Rubin Museum in Tel Aviv continues tomorrow (9:30) with Rosh Pina Blues, a quintet that was inaugurated by two Rosh Pina natives, Itai Elohav and Gershon Melnikov.

FILM FESTIVAL
SUZANNE GLASS

FOR cosmopolitan cinema, coffee and croissants, try the International Student Film Festival at the Cinematheque in Tel Aviv. The crème de la crème of film students from 32 countries have brought their creations here.

Today 36 short movies will be screened at the Cinema Hall 1, from 9:30 a.m. to midnight. The focus today will be on up and coming American and Israeli talent. For a little light relief there will be a symposium on Love in the Cinema at 7:30 p.m. And at 9:30 the Festival organizers have planned a "surprise" appearance by "a very famous Eastern European director."

FILMS
ADINA HOFFMAN

★★★ THE PAPER – A high-caffeine romp around the newsroom of a fictitious New York tabloid, Ron Howard's film uncannily approximates the best and worst traits of the muckracking dailies it honors. Like *The New York Post* and *Daily News* – both expressly designed to be read, bleary-eyed, on a bouncing subway car – *The Paper* is best at its lightest and least profound. With Michael Keaton, Glenn Close, and Robert Duvall. (English dialogue, Hebrew subtitles. Children under 17 not admitted without an adult.)

TELEVISION
PENNY STARR

IF YOU like to get hooked on American junk TV, but you're not hooked up to cable, start watching *The Bold and the Beautiful*. The New Channel 2 has begun airing twice weekly on Sundays and Wednesdays. Don't miss it this afternoon at 4.

Much of the evening's best viewing is on, surprise, Channel 1. Start with Daniel Pe'er's *Wheels*, about cars, road safety and transport at 7:30. Then after *Mabat* stay tuned to 1 for the Israeli-made sitcom *Straight and to the Point* at 9. After *Postmortem*, the 10-minute slot that dissects the dailies at 9:30, there's *Night Studio*.

TELEVISION

■ CHANNEL 1
6.30 News in Arabic **6.45** Cartoons **7.00** Good Morning Israel

■ EDUCATIONAL TV
8.00 Program Details **8.05** Keep Fit **8.15** Arithmetic **8.35** History of Eretz Yisrael **8.55** Judaism: Keshet V'anan **9.20** Natural Science: Let's Look Up **9.40** Pretty Butterfly **10.15** Life of Berlioz – six-part drama series on the life and works of the 19th-century French composer Hector Berlioz **11.10** A Look At Nature **11.20** Science and Technology **11.40** French – Avec plaisir **12.00** Nature **12.25** Mathematics **12.35** Mathematics for Bagrut **13.00** Science and Technology – Biological Revolution **13.25** Computers **14.00** Stories of King Babar **14.30** The Wonder Years **15.00** Zombit

■ CHANNEL 1
15.35 Winnie the Pooh – cartoon **16.00** News update **16.10** Special program for International Children's Day **17.00** A New Evening **17.35** Legends of King Solomon **17.45** The Simpsons **18.15** News in English

ARABIC PROGRAMS
18.30 The Four Seasons **19.00** News in Arabic

HEBREW PROGRAMS
19.30 Wheels – program on cars, transport and road safety hosted by Daniel Pe'er **20.00** Mabat **21.00** Straight and to the Point **21.30** Night Studio – social issues and current events hosted by Meni Pe'er **22.20** Postmortem – program on newspapers **22.30** Film: Habitation of Dragons (1992) – A man returns home after many years hoping to reunite his family and run for public office. Many things have happened without his knowledge and he sets out to correct things. Starring Brad Davis, Jean Stapleton. (91 mins) **23.00** Late-night news **23.05** Continuation of film

■ THE NEW CHANNEL 2
14.05 Star Trek – The Next Generation **15.00** The Garbage Pail Kids – animated series **15.30** Tin Tin – animated series **16.00** The Bold and the Beautiful **17.00** News **17.05** Doug – animated series **17.30** Fresh Prince of Bel-Air **18.00** Clips With Love – with Avri Gilad **19.00** NBA Action – weekly magazine **19.30** Kolbodek **20.00** News **20.30** Hagashash Hahiver – comedy **21.00** Live – Dan Shilon Hosts **22.30** Film: Harry and Son (1984) – see Pick of the Flicks **23.30** News **23.35** Continuation of film

■ JORDAN TV (unofficial)
17.30 French programs **19.00** News in French **19.15** Classical music **19.30** News in Hebrew **19.45** Documentary **20.00** News in Arabic **20.30** Too Close For Comfort **21.10** Documentary **22.00** News in English **22.20** Poldark (drama)

■ MIDDLE EAST TV
14.00 The 700 Club **14.55** Film: Salt of the Earth – Strike for equality in New Mexico mining town. Starring Will Geer, Rosaura Revueltas **16.30** Mighty Mouse **17.20** Dangermouse **17.45** Superbook **18.10** Hart To Hart **19.10** Rescue 911 **20.00** World News Tonight (Arabic) **20.30** CNN Headline News **21.00** Wings **21.30** Matlock **22.20** Murder She Wrote **23.10** The 700 Club **00.00** Film: Salt of the Earth (rpt)

CABLE

■ FAMILY CHANNEL (3)
8.00 Local broadcast **9.00** Attitudes **9.45** The Young and the Restless **10.30** Guests in the Living Room **11.00** Major Dad **11.30** Antonella **12.15** Pasquale's Kitchen **12.40** Falcon Crest **13.35** Perfect Strangers **14.05** Young Indiana Jones **15.00** Trapper John **15.50** Murder She Wrote **16.40** The Powers That Be **17.05** New WKRP in Cincinnati **17.30** Love Boat **18.20** Neighbors **18.45** The Young and The Restless **19.30** Local broadcast **20.00** Antonella **20.50** Falcon Crest **21.40** Cheers **22.10** Melrose Place **23.00** Acapulco Heat **23.45** The Jackie Thomas Show **00.10** Quantum Leap **1.00** Kojak

■ MOVIE CHANNEL (4)
10.30 Indian movie **12.00** Draw (1984) – modern-day Western with Kirk Douglas and James Coburn as two gunslingers on opposite sides of the law **13.40** Matewan (1987) (rpt) **16.00** Baltimore Bullet (1980) (rpt) **17.40** Drop Dead Fred (1991) (rpt) **19.25** Final Notice (1989) (rpt) **21.00** Billy Galvin (1986) – drama about a poor construction worker in Boston who doesn't want his son Billy to follow in his footsteps **22.35** Heavy Traffic (1973) – Ralph Bakshi's full-length animated feature about city life at the beginning of the '70s **23.50** Live Wire (1992) (rpt) **1.15** Zandalee (1990) (rpt)

■ CHILDREN'S CHANNEL (6)
6.30 Cartoons **9.30** Cartoons **10.05** Casper And Friends **10.30** Piggsburg Pigs **11.05** Silver Hawks **11.30** Harry and the Hendersons **12.00** MacGyver **13.00** Kofiko **13.30** Cartoons **14.05** Ghostbusters **14.30** Dreamstone **15.05** Silver Hawks **15.30** Supergran **16.00** The Bionic Woman **16.50** Flying Classroom **17.30** Cartoons **18.05** Casper and Friends **18.30** Piggsburg Pigs **19.00** Perfect Strangers **19.35** 21 Jump St.

■ SECOND SHOWING (6)
20.35 The Honeymooners **21.00** Love Thy Neighbor **21.30** Priest of Love (1981) – drama about the last years in the life of author D.H. Lawrence (Ian McKellen) and his stormy relationship with his wife (Janet Suzman). Also starring Ava Gardner, Penelope Keith and John Gielgud. Directed by Christopher Miles (125 mins) **23.35** The Avengers **00.25** In a Lonely Place (1950) (rpt)

■ DISCOVERY CHANNEL (8)
6.00 Open University: Social Sciences **11.00** To Kill a Whale **12.00** High Interest **13.00** Invention **13.30** Festivals of the World **14.00** Open University (repeat of morning's programs) **16.00** To Kill a Whale **17.00** High Interest **18.00** Open University (repeat of morning's programs) **20.00** The Politics of Food **21.00** New Explorer **21.30** Wild South **22.00** The Power Game **23.00** Extra Dimension **23.45** Open University (repeat of morning's programs)

■ SUPER CHANNEL
6.30 NBC News **7.00** Business Headlines **7.30** NBC Network News **8.00** ITN World News Live **8.15** US Market Wrap **8.30** CNBC Business Tonight Live **9.00** ITN World News **9.15** Market Wrap **9.30** NBC News **10.00** Super Shop **11.00** Geraldo **12.00** Fashion World **12.30** Equal Time **13.00** Today's Business Live **14.00** Today **14.30** FT Business Today **15.00** Today **15.30** The Money Wheel **18.30** FT Business Tonight **19.00** Today **20.00** ITN World News **20.30** Supersport **21.30** Dateline **22.30** Executive Lifestyles **23.00** ITN World News **23.30** The Tonight Show with Jay Leno **00.30** Real Personal

■ STAR PLUS
7.30 Neighbors **8.00** Santa Barbara **9.00** The Bold and The Beautiful **9.30** Donahue **10.30** Oprah Winfrey **11.30** Today's Gourmet **12.00** Mr Rogers' Neighborhood **12.30** Grimms Fairy Tales **13.00** Force Five **13.30** Street Noise **14.00** El Extreme Close Up **14.30** Neighbors **15.00** M*A*S*H **15.30** Doogie Howser, M.D. **16.00** Anything But Love **16.30** Moonlighting **17.30** The Bold and The Beautiful **18.00** Santa Barbara **19.00** Crystal Maze **20.00** Capital City **21.00** M*A*S*H **21.30** El Features **22.00** Neighbors **22.30** Crystal Maze **23.30** Capital City **00.30** Donahue

RADIO

■ VOICE OF MUSIC
6.06 Waking to Music **7.07** Buxtehude: Toccata in F for organ; Locatelli: Concerto Grosso op 1/9; M. Haydn: Trumpet concerto no 2; Weber: Der Freischütz overture; Schumann: 4 Fugues **8.05** Mozart: Musical Joke K522; Haydn: Organ concerto in C; Sibelius: Lemminkainen in Tuonela **9.00** Vivaldi: Chamber concerto in F (Il Giardino Armonico); Hummel: Quintet in E flat for piano and strings op 87 (Hausmusik); Saint-Saens: La muse et le poète for violin, cello and orch ±**9.50** From Our Concert Halls – Israel Sinfonietta Beersheba cond. Mendi Rodan. Tzah Drori: Fantasy for piano and orch; Mahler: Songs from Rückert, songs from Des Knaben Wunderhorn; Schubert: Symphony no 9 "Great" ±**11.10** Beethoven: Trio in D op 9/2 (Perlman, Zukerman, Harrell) +**11.45** From the World's Concert Halls: Bach: The Well-Tempered Clavier (Schiff, 2nd book) ±**12.15** Prokofiev: Violin concerto no 2 (Perlman/Chicago CO/ Barenboim); F. Schmidt: The Tragedy of Salome, full version (1937) **14.06** Works by Bizet – excerpts from Carmen, Les Pêcheurs de Perles, La Jolie Fille de Perth, Jeux d'Enfants, L'Arlesienne suite no 2 **16.00** Guest program **18.00** Keys **19.05** Paul Ben-Haim: Serenade for flute and string trio (Buchman, members of Van Leer Trio); Beethoven: Serenade in D for flute, violin and viola op 25 (Talmi, members of Israel Flute Trio) **20.03** Clouds, Celebrations and Sirens **23.00** Domino

■ RADIO 1
6.16 Mishna, Gemara and Tora **7.00** News in English **7.15** News in French **7.30** Hebrew songs **8.05** Dial **9.05** It's Open **10.05** Teleradio **11.05** Finger on the Pulse **12.05** Industry **13.00** News and program in English **13.30** News and program in French **14.05** Youth programs **15.30** Ethnic music **16.05** Musical quiz **17.00** News in English **17.02** News in French **17.05** Israel Festival magazine **18.05** Religious programs **20.00** Evening news **20.50** Judaism **22.05** Jerusalem magazine **23.05** Words that Try to Touch

■ RADIO 2
6.06 This Morning – news magazine **8.05** Another Matter **9.05** Popular songs **10.05** It's All Talk **12.05** Midday – news, commentary, music **14.05** Magic Moments **15.05** Foreign Affairs **15.45** Foreign Press **16.05** The Color of Money **17.05** Five After the News **18.05** Today – newsreel **19.05** The Arabs of Israel **20.05** Hebrew songs **21.05** News headlines **21.15** Current affairs **23.05** Night Flight **00.05** Midnight Magazine **00.30** Night Flight, continued **1.05** Into the Night **5.05** First Light

■ RADIO 3
Music all day and night

■ REKA
18.00 News in English **18.15** News in French **20.00** News in Russian

■ ARMY RADIO
5.02 Good Morning IDF **6.00** Good Morning Israel **6.05** Broadcast University – Marginal Groups in the Middle Ages **6.30** Good Morning Israel **7.15** A New Morning **8.00** Good Morning Israel **9.05** It's Difficult in the Morning **10.05** Wafers **10.49** Today's entertainment **11.05** Right Now **13.00** Midday News **13.15** Something for Midday **14.05** Rock magazine **15.05** Someone to Talk To **16.00** An Hour Before **17.00** Good Evening Israel **18.05** Over the Horizon **18.45** Army and security **19.05** Music **20.00** Evening news **20.30** Psychology **21.05** Check 5 **22.05** All That Jazz **23.05** This Was the Day **00.10** Night Birds **2.00** We Don't Want to Sleep

■ ARMY ON WHEELS
7.05 The State on the Way **9.05** Nine in the Square **11.05** Sun **13.05** Air Conditioning **14.05** Battery **15.05** Program with Dubi Lentz **16.05** Driving Wisely **18.05** Program with Lea Oz **20.05** Drive In **22.05** Good Night

CINEMA

JERUSALEM
CINEMATHEQUE ☎ 724131 **Ma Saison Preferee** 7 ★ **Hester Street** 9:30 G.G. GIL **Jerusalem Mall (Malha)** ☎ 788448 **Naked Gun 33⅓** 1:30, 5, 8, 10 ★ **Grumpy Old Men** □ **The Paper** 1:30, 5, 7:45, 10 ★ **Pelican Brief** 1:30, 4:30, 7:30, 10 ★ **Schindler's List** 1:30, 5, 8:30 ★ **Max and Morris** 1:30, 5, 7:45, 10 ★ **Kalifornia** 1:30, 5, 7:30, 10 ★ **In the Name of the Father** 1:30, 4:30, 7:15, 9:45 JERUSALEM THEATER ☎ 617167 20 Marcus St. **Blanc** 7, 9:30 ORION OR 1-6 ☎ 252914 4 Shamai St. **Little Buddha** 7, 9:15 ★ **Leon the Pig Farmer** 5 ★ **Wayne's World 2** □ **The Woman who Made Sesame Oil** □ **Orlando** 5, 7:15, 9:30 RAV CHEN 1-7 ☎ 792799 **Credit Card Reservations** ☎ 794477 Rav-Mecher Building, 19 Ha'oman St., Talpiot **Angie** □ **Blink** □ **Malice** 5, 7:30, 9:45 ★ **The Beverly Hillbillies** □ **My Father the Hero** 5, 7:30, 9:45 ★ **Shadowlands** 4:30, 7:15, 9:45 ★ **Kika** 4:45, 7:15, 9:45 RON 1-2 ☎ 234704 1 Rabbi Akiva St. **Philadelphia** □ **Hear No Evil** 5, 7:15, 9:30

TEL AVIV
RAV-CHEN ☎ 5282288* Dizengoff Center **My Father the Hero** 5, 7:15, 9:45 ★ **Blink** □ **Malice** 5, 7:30, 9:45 ★ **Angie** 11, 2:30, 5, 7:30, 9:45 ★ **Hear No Evil** 11, 2:30, 5, 7:30, 9:45 DEKEL ☎ 5443200 94 Yehuda Hamaccabi St. **Philadelphia** 7:30, 9:45 DIZENGOFF 1-3 ☎ 200485 Dizengoff Center **Blanc** □ **Romeo is Bleeding** 11, 1, 3, 5:15, 7:30, 9:45 ★ **The Piano** 11, 3, 7 ★ **Belle Epoque** 1, 5:15, 9:45 GAN HA'IR 71 Ibn Gabirol St. **The House of the Spirits** 2:15, 4:45, 7:30, 10 ★ **Little Buddha** 2, 4:45, 7:15, 9:45 GAT ☎ 6967888* 26 Ibn Gabirol St. **Shadowlands** 4:45, 7:15, 9:45 GORDON ☎ 5236992 87 Ben Yehuda St. **The Unbelievable Truth** 6:30, 10 ★ **Trust** 8 G.G. HOD 1–4 ☎ 5228090 Hod Passage, 101 Dizengoff St. **Grumpy Old Men** 5, 7:30, 10 ★ **Fearless** 4:45, 7:30, 10 ★ **Max and Morris** 5, 7:30, 9:45 ★ **Pelican Brief** 4:45, 7:30, 10 ★ **Schindler's List** 5, 8:45 LEV 1-4 ☎ 5288288 **Kalifornia** 12:15, 2:15, 5, 7:30, 10 ★ **Fan Fan** 12, 2:15, 5 ★ **Kika** 12, 2, 4:45, 7:30, 9:45 ★ **Farewell to my Concubine** 2, 7, 9:30 ★ **Naked** 12, 5, 7:30, 10 MAXIM **The Age of Innocence** 7:15, 9:30 RAV-OR 1-5 ☎ 5102674* Opera House **Angie** 5, 7:30, 9:45 ★ **Short Cuts** 5:30, 9 ★ **Little Buddha** 4:30, 7:15, 9:45 ★ **Age of Innocence** □ **Remains of the Day** 4:30, 7:15, 9:45 G.G. SHAHAF 1-2 ☎ 5271645 Kikar Namir **Schindler's List** 5, 8:45 ★ **Max and Morris** 5:30, 8, 10 G.G. TAYELET 1-3 ☎ 5177952 2 Yona Hanavi St., **Intersection** □ **In the Name of the Father** □ **The Paper** 5, 7:30, 10 ★ G.G. TEL AVIV ☎ 5281181 65 Pinsker St. **Naked Gun 33⅓** 5:30, 8, 10 ★ **The Paper** □ **In the Name of the Father** 5, 7:30, 10 TEL AVIV MUSEUM ☎ 6961297 27 Shaul Hamelekh Boulevard **The Woman Who Made Sesame Oil** 5, 7:45, 10 ZAFON ☎ 5443966 18 Louis Marshall St. **Baraka** 5, 7:30, 9:45

HAIFA
CINEMA CAFÉ AMAMI ☎ 325755 **The Woman Who Made Sesame Oil** 7 ★ **Pelican Brief** 9:15 ★ **The Beverly Hillbillies** 7 ★ **Remains of the Day** 9:15 ATZMON **Naked Gun 33⅓** □ **The Paper** □ **Baraka** □ **Intersection** 4:30, 7, 9:15 ★ **Fearless** 4:30, 7, 9:15 CINEMATHEQUE ☎ 386246/383424 Jan Svankmaier Animation Films 7 ★ **House of Spirits** 9:30 CINEMA CAFÉ MORIAH ☎ 242477 **Kalifornia** 7:15, 9:30 ORLY **Shadowlands** 6:45; 9:15 PANORAMA **In the Name of the Father** 4:30, 7, 9:30 ★ **Schindler's List** 5, 8:30 ★ **White** 4:30, 7, 9:30 RAV-GAT 1-2 ☎ 674311 **Blink** 4:30, 7, 9:15 ★ **Blind Side** 4:45, 7, 9:15 RAV-MOR 1-7 ☎ 416899/8 **Hear No Evil** □ **Philadelphia** □ **Malice** 4:30, 7, 9:15 ★ **Shadowlands** 4:30, 6:45, 9:15 ★ **My Father the Hero** □ **Blink** □ **Angie** 4:45, 7, 9:15 RAV-OR 1-3 ☎ 246553 **My Father the Hero** 4:30, 7, 9:15 ★ **Angie** 4:30, 7, 9:15 ★ **Kika** 7, 9:15 ★ **Aristocats** *(Hebrew dialogue)* 4:45

ASHDOD
G.G. GIL **The Beverly Hillbillies** 5:30, 7:45, 10 ★ **Naked Gun 33⅓** 5:30, 8, 10 ★ **Philadelphia** 5, 7:30, 10 ★ **Max and Morris** 5:30, 7:45, 10 ★ **Fearless** 5, 7:30, 10 RON 1-2 ☎ 566077 **The Piano** □ **Romeo is Bleeding** 7:30, 9:30

ASHKELON
RAV CHEN 1-5 ☎ 711223 **Naked Gun 33⅓** □ **Blink** □ **Max and Morris** 5, 7:30, 9:45 ★ **Schindler's List** 5:30, 9 ★ **Remains of the Day** 4:30, 7:15, 9:45

BAT YAM
RAV CHEN ☎ 5531077 **Max and Morris** □ **Naked Gun 33⅓** 5, 7:30, 9:45 ★ **My Father the Hero** □ **Blink** □ **Malice** 5, 7:30, 9:45 ★ **Shadowlands** 4:45, 7:15, 9:45 ★ ★ **Schindler's List** 5:30, 9

BEERSHEBA
G.G. ESHEL ☎ 274073 **Intersection** 5, 7:30, 10 RAV-NEGEV 1-4 ☎ 235278 **Blink** □ **Malice** □ **Grumpy Old Men** 5, 7:30, 9:45 ★ **Naked Gun 33⅓** 5, 7:30, 9:45

HADERA
LEV 1-4 ☎ 343555 **Blink** 5, 7:30, 9:45 ★ **Naked Gun 33⅓** 5, 7:30, 9:45 ★ **Naked** 5, 7:30, 10 ★ **Grumpy Old Men** 5, 7:30, 10

HERZLIYA
ACCADIA CINEMA CLUB ☎ 557799 **Fearless** 7:30, 9:45 COLONY CINEMA 1-2 (MANDARIN) ☎ 6902666 **Malice** □ **Remains of the Day** 7:30, 10 DANIEL HOTEL ☎ 544044 **THE AUDITORIUM Baraka** 7:15, 9:30 STAR ☎ 589068 29 Sokolow St. **Naked Gun 33⅓** 7:30, 9:45 ★ **Kika** 7:30, 9:45 ★ **Grumpy Old Men** 7:30, 9:45

KARMIEL
CINEMA 1–3 ☎ 887277 **Short Cuts** □ **Blue** 7, 9:30 ★ **Schindler's List** 5:30, 9

KFAR SAVA
G.G. GIL **Naked Gun 33⅓** 5:30, 8, 10 ★ **In the Name of the Father** 4:45, 7:15, 10 ★ **Kika** 10 ★ **The Beverly Hillbillies** 5, 7:30 ★ **Grumpy Old Men** 5, 7:30, 10 ★ **The Paper** □ **Blink** 5, 7:30, 10 ★ **Philadelphia** 5, 7:30, 10

KIRYAT BIALIK
G.G. KIRYON 1-9 ☎ 779166 **The Secret Garden** 4:45 ★ **Baraka** 4:45, 7, 9:30 ★ **The Paper** 4:45, 7, 9:30 ★ **In the Name of the Father** 7, 9:30 ★ **Mrs. Doubtfire** □ **Look Who's Talking 2** 4:45 ★ **Max and Morris** □ **Naked Gun 33⅓** 4:45, 7, 9:30 ★ **Jungle Book** 4:45 ★ **Intersection** 7, 9:30 ★ **Fearless** 7, 9:30 ★ **Grumpy Old Men** 4:45, 7, 9:30 ★ **Schindler's List** 5:45, 9:15

KIRYAT MALACHI
HAKIRYA **On Deadly Ground** 7:30, 9:30 ★ **Aladdin** Tue., 5 HECHAL HATARBUT ☎ 580526 1 Ben Gurion Blvd. **Schindler's List** 9

MIGDAL HA'EMEK
RAV CHEN **The Beverly Hillbillies** □ **My Father the Hero** □ **Blue** 7, 9:30

NAHARIYA
HOD ☎ 920502 **Schindler's List** 5:30, 9

NESS ZIONA
G.G. GIL 1-4 ☎ 404729 **Naked Gun 33⅓** 5:30, 8, 10 ★ **The Paper** 5, 7:30, 10 ★ **Grumpy Old Men** 5, 7:30, 10 ★ **In the Name of the Father** 5, 7:30, 10

NETANYA
G.G. GIL 1-5 ☎ 628452 **Naked Gun 33⅓** 5:30, 8, 10 ★ **In the Name of the Father** □ **Grumpy Old Men** □ **Kalifornia** 5, 7:30, 10 ★ **The Paper** 5, 7:45, 10 ★ RAV-CHEN 1-4 ☎ 618570 **My Father the Hero** 5, 7:30, 9:45 ★ **Hear No Evil** □ **Blink** □ **Angie** 5, 7:30, 9:45

OR YEHUDA
G.G. GIL **Max and Morris** 5, 7:30, 9:45 ★ **Naked Gun 33⅓** 5:30, 8, 10 ★ **Schindler's List** 5, 8:30 ★ **Remains of the Day** 5, 7:30, 9:45

PETAH TIKVA
G.G. HECHAL 1-3 ☎ 9300844 **Naked Gun 33⅓** 5:30, 8, 10 ★ **The Paper** □ **Grumpy Old Men** 5, 7:30, 10 G. G. RAM 1-3 ☎ 9340818 **In the Name of the Father** 5, 7:30, 10 ★ **Schindler's List** 5, 8:30 ★ **Max and Morris** 5:30, 8, 10

RA'ANANA
PARK **My Father the Hero** □ **Naked Gun 33⅓** 7:30, 9:30 ★ **Hear No Evil** 7:30, 9:30 ★ **Philadelphia** 7:30, 9:45 ★ **Shadowlands** 7:30, 10

RAMAT GAN
RAV-GAN 1-4 ☎ 797121 **Angie** 5, 7:30, 9:45 ★ **In the Name of the Father** 4:30, 7, 9:45 ★ **Shadowlands** 4:55, 7:15, 9:45 ★ **My Father the Hero** 5, 7:30, 9:45 RAV-OASIS 1-3 ☎ 6730687 **Blink** □ **Naked Gun 33⅓** □ **Malice** 5, 7:30, 9:45

REHOVOT
CHEN 1–4 ☎ 465979 **Shadowlands** 7:15, 9:45 ★ **Short Cuts** 6, 9 ★ **Blink** 7:15, 9:45 ★ **Philadelphia** 7, 9:45

RISHON LEZION
NA'AMAN ☎ 941522 **Little Buddha** 7:30, 9:45 RAV-CHEN 1–4 ☎ 9670503/7 **My Father the Hero** □ **Angie** □ **Blink** □ **Hear No Evil** 5, 7:30, 9:45 RISHON ☎ 9663230 **Ma Saison Preferee** 7:30, 9:45 G.G. RON 1-3 ☎ 9662175 **Blind Side** 5, 7:15, 9:30 ★ **Wide Sargossa Sea** 5, 7:15, 9:45 ★ **The House of the Spirits** 5, 7:15, 9:30 HAZAHAV **Grumpy Old Men** 4:45, 7:30, 10 ★ **In the Name of the Father** 4:45, 7:30, 10 ★ **The Paper** 4:45, 7:45, 10

RISHON NEW IND. AREA
GAL 1-5 ☎ 9619669 **Naked Gun 33⅓** 5, 8, 10 ★ **Max and Morris** 5:30, 8, 10 ★ **Blink** 4:45, 7:30, 10 ★ **My Father the Hero** 5:30, 7:45, 10 ★ **Schindler's List** 5, 8:30 STAR 1-4 ☎ 9619985-7 27 Lishinsky St. **The Beverly Hillbillies** 7:45, 10 ★ **Kika** 7:30, 10 ★ **Philadelphia** 7:15, 10 ★ **Little Buddha** 7:15 ★ **Blanc** 10

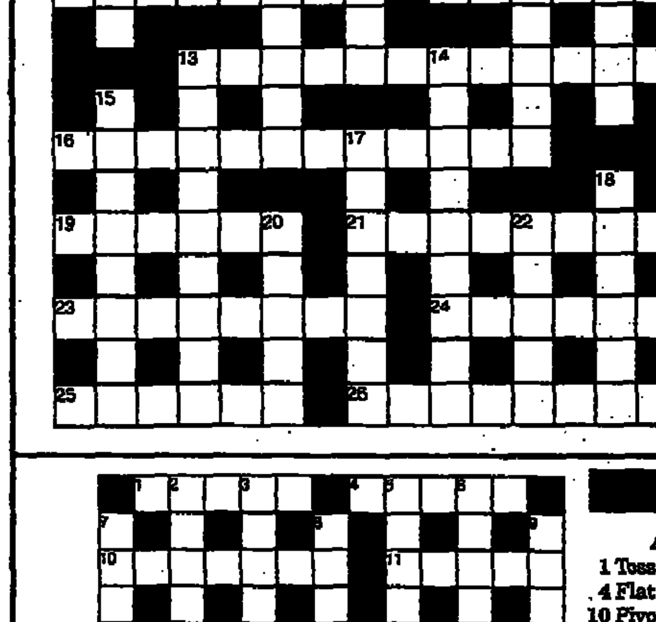
UPPER NAZARETH
G.G GIL **Malice** 5, 7:15, 9:45 ★ **In the Name of the Father** 5, 7:30, 10 ★ **Naked Gun 33⅓** 5:30, 8, 10 ★ **Romeo is Bleeding** 5, 7:15, 10 ★ **The Beverly Hillbillies** □ **The Secret Garden** 5, 7:15, 9:45 ★ **Max and Morris** 8, 10

FERDNAND

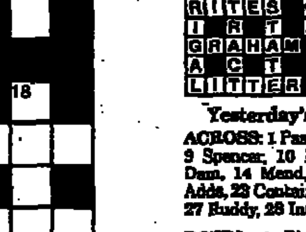
CRYPTIC CROSSWORD

ACROSS
1 Bob found a way to save time (5-3)
6 Infer that most of the bird is in the river (6)
9 Bill's repeated first-class backing for a tree (6)
10 Too confusing, range used by aural instrument (8)
11 Relief about heartless power of one woman (8)
12 & 13 Table, perhaps, it's something taken for granted (4,2,3,9)
16 Moving steadily on, counterfeiting only one side of the coin (7,5)
19 Boring rubbish to bring the house down? (3-3)
21 Sea route used by trains! (4-4)
23 Favour man pressing a suit (8)
24 Draw forth priest, Italian, going round chapter (6)
25 Raggedly-dressed child might be found at sea (6)
26 Mounting excitement will point to us to think in French (8)

DOWN
2 Had included odd pieces of cake (a quarter) that had been cut (6)
3 Car perhaps, one spotted by bishop outside (5)
4 Fickle person coming from a clean home (9)
5 US author found the gold hidden with more gold (7)
6 Hang down, nothing will fall out (5)
7 Create odd sort of architectural style (9)
8 Drinking vessel on table in the kitchen (8)
13 Flier got tight rolling round Rome (5-4)
14 Want to see Dennis around (9)
15 Pleasure horseman had from driver of stolen vehicle (3-5)
17 No object in troubling Melissa (7)
18 Lives for clothes? (6)
20 Mark two (5)
22 Learning about one European banker (5)

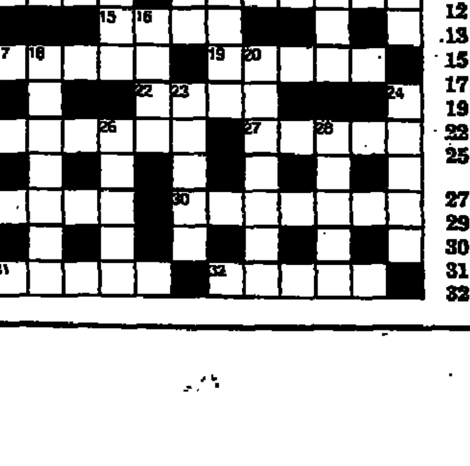


SOLUTIONS



Yesterday's Quick Solution
ACROSS: 1 Passed, 4 Thyme, 8 Crude, 9 Spencer, 10 Embrace, 11 Stop, 12 Dam, 14 Mend, 15 Axed, 18 Sea, 21 Adds, 23 Contain, 25 Present, 26 Arise, 27 Buddy, 28 Intent.
DOWN: 1 Picked, 2 Stumble, 3 Emeralds, 4 Tier, 5 Yacht, 6 Europe, 7 Asked, 13 Maintain, 16 Examine, 17 Tamper, 19 Acute, 20 Invert, 22 Dread, 24 Very.

QUICK CROSSWORD



ACROSS
1 Toss (colloq.) (5)
4 Flat cap (5)
10 Pivot (7)
11 Fragment (5)
12 LX (5)
13 Vehicle for hire (7)
15 Cooker (4)
17 Pigs (5)
19 More modern (5)
22 Twelve o'clock (4)
25 Capital of Indonesia (7)
27 Re-equip (5)
29 Re-equip (5)
30 Trade ban (7)
31 Fierce look (5)
32 Embellish (5)

DOWN
2 Spiral (5)
3 Continue (5,2)
5 SE English county (5)
6 Otalgia (7)
7 Serviceable (2,3)
8 Strike (5)
9 Sun-dried brick (5)
14 —— Domini (4)
16 Outlet (4)
18 Vigilant (7)
20 Clothed (7)
21 Norwegian inlet (5)
23 Of the acorn tree (5)
24 Shining (5)
26 Revolving aerofoil (5)
28 Panellist (5)

Petah Tikva mayor aquitted of bribery, breach of trust

RAINE MARCUS

PETAH TIKVA Mayor Giora Lev was acquitted on charges of accepting bribes and breach of trust by Tel Aviv District Court yesterday.

Lev was indicted four years ago for accepting a plane ticket to Los Angeles from a building contractor in return for giving the latter a construction project.

Following the acquittal, Lev complained bitterly about his "difficult four-year struggle."

"This trial was extraneous," said Lev. "The state's attorney didn't want to listen to me, neither did the then-attorney general Yosef Harish."

The trial, he said, was the work of a "political maniac who went to the police for political interests and cooperated with the prosecution."

Judge Natan Amit ruled that Lev was not aware that he was committing an offense by accepting the ticket, but said there were irregularities in the handling of the building tender.

Lev was charged with accepting a plane ticket, to be used by his wife, from contractor Motti Dinovitz in return for allowing the latter to construct a park in Petah Tikva without competing in a tender for the project as regulations require. Two other contractors had bowed out of the bidding and Dinovitz offered a low price for the work.

Petah Tikva Mayor Giora Lev (Israel Sun)

Dinovitz and Lev had planned to travel to Los Angeles for the wedding of Dinovitz's nephew, but Lev told the contractor he could not pay for a ticket for his wife. Dinovitz then bought the $1,300 ticket for Edna Lev.

The prosecution charged that, in return, Lev drafted a contract for the construction of "Gan Hameyasdim" without announcing an additional tender or getting approval from the municipal committee.

Lev had claimed that he did not know that the committee had to authorize such a contract, and said there was no connection between the flight ticket and the contract.

In acquitting Lev, Amit questioned the credibility of a central prosecution witness, Yoav Merhavi, describing his testimony as "tendentious and strange."

Amit said he found irregularities and incorrect management in giving Dinovitz the work but could not find "any criminal intent" or cause to convict.

"The prosecution did not prove that Lev accepted bribes," said Amit. But Lev should have known that any contract required approval by the municipality committee, he added.

Finance Minister Avraham Shohat, a former mayor of Arad, autographs a copy of the plan for a new 50,000-seat ampitheater in the Negev town at yesterday's session of the World Conference of Jewish National Fund Leaders. Looking on (from left) are Guido Levy, president of JNF Italy, which is sponsoring the project; JNF Director-General Yitzhak Eliashiv; JNF World Chairman Moshe Rivlin; and new JNF Co-chairman Yona Peled. (Joe Malcolm)

Industrial pollution from autonomous areas could threaten water supply

EVELYN GORDON

INDUSTRIAL waste from the autonomous regions could severely damage Israel's water supply, the Knesset state control committee was told yesterday.

Rami Gabizon, an expert on water from the State Comptroller's Office, explained that if the Palestinians set up industries in the Judean Hills, and failed to prevent the industrial waste from seeping into the groundwater, all of the underground reservoirs in the region are likely to be polluted.

Gabizon criticized the Israeli negotiating team for not dealing with this issue sufficiently during talks with the PLO.

Water Commissioner Gideon Tzur described the threat as "cardinal" and "critical." If steps are not taken to prevent the threat from being realized, he said, it could even be a reason for breaking the agreement with the PLO.

Comtmittee chairman David Magen (Likud) said he would write to Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin to draw his attention to the matter, in the hope there is still time to deal with the problem.

Magen also said he would present the committee's recommendations regarding the water supply to the plenum separately from its conclusions on the rest of the 1994 state comptroller's report, in order to focus attention on this critical issue. Normally, all of the recommendations are submitted together.

The issue of autonomy arose in the context of a discussion on water quality in general, sparked by the state comptroller's harsh criticism.

Yoram Lass (Labor) noted that the amount of pollutants permitted in drinking water here is double that in Europe, and said the standards appear to have been adapted to the reality rather than based on any objective criteria.

Dan Tichon (Likud) called for the establishment of a public commission to discuss ways of solving the water problems.

Magen noted that two years ago, the government decided to set up a central authority to deal with the water system, to prevent the problems created by having several different bodies each dealing with pieces of the issue. However, the decision was never carried out.

In light of the continuing deterioration in water quality, he said, it is imperative that the government implement this recommendation immediately.

UN: Israel taking water from Lebanon

AMMAN (Reuter) – A UN report accuses Israel of diverting large volumes of water from areas of Lebanon since 1978.

The report, which also said Israel had appropriated water from Arabs in Judea and Samaria and the Golan Heights, was released at the annual ministerial meeting of the UN Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia that ended in Amman yesterday.

"Lebanon is entitled to meet all its needs from its water before considering exporting the surplus to neighboring countries," said the report by ESCWA, a UN body that groups Arab states from Egypt to the Gulf but does not include Israel.

The report on Middle East water policy – a key item in Arab-Israeli peace talks – said Israel began taking Lebanese water from the time of its first invasion in 1978. It said the diversion centered on the Litani River and the smaller Wazzani River.

Tzaban blasts Israel Radio reporton supply of false documents to Falash Mura

BATSHEVA TSUR

ABSORPTION Minister Yair Tzaban yesterday slammed an Israel Radio report claiming thousands of false documents identifying members of the Falash Mura community as Jews had been issued by the spiritual leaders of the Ethiopian Jewish community.

According to the report, the relative ease with which such documents were available had led to a heavy stream of hopeful members of the Falash Mura community from villages in northern Ethiopia to the capital, Addis Ababa.

Describing these reports as "false leaks and rumors," Tzaban said it was disgraceful to place such collective blame on all the kessim, without checking the facts. "Such reports cause damage and disrupt the arrangements to bring [those Falash Mura entitled to come] gradually to Israel," Tzaban added.

He said that he had asked Deputy Foreign Minister Yossi Beilin to check whether the reports had originated with the Foreign Ministry.

An informed source said last night that the Ethiopian authorities were "less than enthusiastic" about the continued efforts to bring the Falash Mura to Israel. High-level talks on the subject had recently been held following a suggestion by Tzaban that the number of Falash Mura coming monthly be raised to 200, the source said.

Since last summer, when the first Falash Mura arrived here, only some 600 community members have been allowed to leave Ethiopia to be reunited with their families.

The Falash Mura are permitted to come here if they are found eligible under the Law of Return – that is, if they can prove their Jewishness.

To do so, many of them turn to the kessim. If they have first-degree family members here, but cannot prove their Jewishness, they can come under the Law of Entry, whch does not entitle them to immigrant rights.

Since Operation Solomon three years ago, 4,000 Falash Mura have remained in squalid quarters in different parts of the Ethiopian capital, getting humanitarian aid from the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee.

An Interior Ministry committee occasionally goes to Addis Ababa to check the eligibility of those Falash Mura who have requested to make aliya. Such a committee, headed by Yosef Tov, returned from the Ethiopian capital a few days ago. The Israeli ambassador is believed to have reported to the Foreign Ministry on its findings and on the talks with the Ethiopian authorities.

Acting Jewish Agency Chairman Yehiel Leket said yesterday that the agency brings the Falash Mura here on the basis of the government's decisions. He confirmed that an additional emissary had been sent to the Ethiopian capital because of pressure from the Falash Mura, but said that only a few hundred villagers from the north had come to Addis.

How the alleged immigration scam works

HERB KEINON

RABBI Yitzhak Idan, an advisor to the chief rabbis, said his office has been appraised of two types of fraud allegedly being perpetrated by the Falash Mura.

He said one type of fraud involves kessim sending false documents of lineage to Falash Mura in Ethiopia. These documents, showing that the individuals in question are related to Jews, are then used to receive documents of entry into the country.

In the other type of fraud, Idan said that Falash Mura enter the country under special permits, and then undergo what he described as "quickie conversions" which enable them to become citizens.

They are then able to bring in the rest of the family under the terms of the Law of Return, even if these family members do not convert.

"This has all caused disagreement in the Falash Mura community in Ethiopia," Idan said. "People with valid documents are now worried that they will be hurt because of the people using false documents."

Idan said that the Chief Rabbinate has chastised the rabbis performing the "quick" conversions, and is also calling for a review of the whole procedure by which Falash Mura are permitted entry into the country.

Idan said he does not know how many people have been involved in these alleged immigration scams.

Court refuses to allow Meshulam to attend brother's wedding

Indictment against 'rabbi' expected by end of the week

EVELYN GORDON

DEPUTY Supreme Court President Aharon Barak yesterday refused to allow Uzi Meshulam to officiate at his brother's wedding, saying the danger of Meshulam or his followers creating a public disturbance was too great.

Meanwhile, state attorney Rivka Feldman told the court that an indictment against Meshulam would probably be filed by the end of the week.

Barak also rejected a compromise proposed by Meshulam's attorney, Shmuel Flishman, whereby Meshulam would conduct the ceremony at the jail, with only the bride, the groom and two witnesses in attendance. Feldman had argued that even with the best of intentions, Meshulam could not guarantee that a horde of his followers would not accompany the bride and groom to the prison, and run amok there.

"I don't believe he can control this," Feldman said, adding that as a result, this option would require "very great preparations ... by both the prison and the police."

"It's not as if he were getting married himself," Feldman stressed. "The wedding can still take place without him."

Flishman argued that the petition was a "humanitarian request of the first order," and should therefore be approved, since "even a prisoner has rights." He rejected the idea that Meshulam constituted a public danger, saying that even during the weeks when Meshulam and his armed followers were holed up in Yehud, they had never used their weapons, because Meshulam had ordered them not to.

"These people sat there for a month and a half, and not one policeman was hurt," he said.

However, Barak accepted the state's arguments – supported by classified material – that permitting Meshulam to officiate at the wedding would constitute a public danger.

Suspected phone tappers released on bail

RAINE MARCUS

YA'ACOV Tsur and Rafi Friedan, the private investigators charged with tapping the phones of two senior employees of *Yediot Aharonot* and one of *Ma'ariv*, were released on NIS 100,000 bail in Tel Aviv Magistrates Court yesterday. They had been in custody for three weeks, followed by three weeks of house arrest.

The case has exposed a full-scale war between *Ma'ariv* and *Yediot*, with each blaming the other for ordering the wiretapping.

Ha'aretz reported last week that two employees of an investigation company working for *Ma'ariv* were planted in the Tashbetz investigation company, employed by *Yediot*.

The "plants" stole documents which found their way to *Ma'ariv*, according to the report. One such document was shown on *Mabat*.

Following his release yesterday, Friedan, who at the start of the investigation admitted tapping the three phones, said the whole case has been blown out of proportion by the press because of its involvement.

"Now I hope we can get on with the trial, just like any other defendants. The courts, not the press, will judge us," said Friedan.

Tsur has denied all charges of wiretapping. The pair are keeping silent about who ordered the taps and speculation is rife among police, other private investigators and the press that they are being paid vast sums of money to remain silent.

The pair will not be able to work as private investigators until after their trial. Police have seized the machine, manufactured by ECI, allegedly used for tapping cellular phones. As reported in *The Jerusalem Post*, the machine, which ECI said was given to the investigators for "experimentation and research" was also used by Tel Aviv's central unit on a trial basis for around a month, although police officially deny this. It was used by an undercover unit for trapping a Lebanese drug dealer.

According to defense lawyers Motti Katz and Penina Devorin it has not yet been established that listening to such conversations is a criminal offense, since no one has been convicted for tapping cellular phones.

They also argued that tapping regular phones is a misdemeanor, and not a crime.

A list of around 60 subjects whose cellular phone conversations were allegedly tapped was presented in court recently.

Since the pair's arrest the prosecution has requested their detention, arguing that alleged "large-scale" offenses require a graver approach by courts, which have not imprisoned offenders for wiretapping.

Judge Zecharia Caspi said yesterday "it is embarrassing that the Supreme Court has not ruled on whether tapping cellular phones is a criminal offense."

While the issue is still "vague, controversial and complicated" he added, the two should not have their basic freedom abused.

Regarding the three charges of phone tapping, Caspi said that the prosecution has evidence to convict, including statements by prosecution witness Benny Hayoun.

"Claims by the prosecution that the pair are likely to commit other offenses and represent a danger to the public are debatable," said Caspi.

Maximum punishments by law for wiretapping offenses do not warrant their remand in custody, he added.

"The message to the public should not be conveyed by keeping the two in custody but by a public debate regarding such offenses," said Caspi.

Health Ministry: Clalit crisis won't harm patients

JUDY SIEGEL

THE Health Ministry yesterday promised that "no one's health will be jeopardized" by the financial problems of Kupat Holim Clalit.

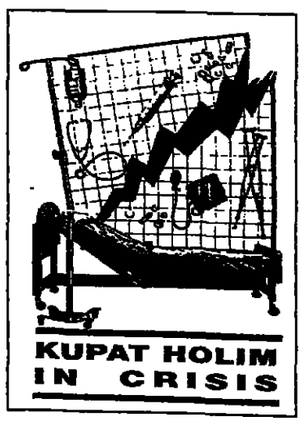
However, officials did not say how this would be accomplished, since the government has to consider various alternatives, including putting the financially sick health fund into receivership or granting it massive subsidies.

There were only relatively small shortages of supplies in some of the health fund's 15 hospitals yesterday despite management's having halted all disbursements of money to suppliers and frozen contracts.

The health fund transferred certain drugs from hospitals with adequate supplies (such as Beilinson in Petah Tikva) to those with shortages, including Josephthal in Eilat and Ha'emek in Afula. The supplies included infusion fluids, disposable equipment and drugs.

The works committee at Beilinson meanwhile called on Finance Minister Avraham Shohat to resign immediately. They accused him of endangering patients and staffers by threatening to put the health fund into receivership.

The staffers said it was unconscionable that they, who vastly improved health fund services over the past 18 months, should be punished for Clalit's financial distress. The works committee asked Histadrut secretary-general-designate Haim Ramon and health minister-designate Ephraim Sneh for an urgent meeting.



Clalit chairman Prof. Dan Michaeli yesterday expressed optimism that the government would release the necessary money to the health fund to prevent it from shutting down. "They have no alternative, because there is no way that health services can be provided solely by government institutions without Kupat Holim Clalit," he said.

He offered to sell all the health fund's hospitals, but noted that only the government would be capable of raising such funds. "Nowhere in the whole world have large public hospitals been purchased by private interests. They are not money-makers."

The Israel Medical Association, representing 12,000 of the country's doctors, meanwhile declared that it would not allow the government to put Clalit into receivership.

The IMA accused the Finance Ministry and the Histadrut of intensifying the health fund's financial problems, and charged that the political leadership kept silent about these difficulties before the Histadrut elections to try to preserve their control.

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